

# **KEY DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS OF QUEBEC'S ENGLISH-SPEAKING YOUTH (15-29)**

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**JPocock Research Consulting for  
Community Health and Social  
Services Network (CHSSN)**

**CHSSN**

*Community Health  
And Social Services Network*  
Réseau communautaire de santé  
et de services sociaux

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# REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

## Population Size

Today's English-speaking youth are located in a population of 1.1 million English speakers living in Quebec. A minority within a minority, Quebec's English speakers comprise 13.8% (2016) of the total provincial population. Quebec's English-speaking communities range from more than 600,000 on the island of Montreal, and large population counts in nearby Montérégie (156,200) and Laval (91,115), to tiny populations in areas such as Bas-Saint-Laurent (1,080), Saguenay Lac-Saint-Jean (1,975) and des Îles (695).

There are 225,585 English-speaking youth (15-29) living in Quebec and they form a substantial 20.5% of their language population. To compare, French-speaking youth aged 15-29 years comprise 17.5% of Quebec's majority language group.

## Visible Minority Status

When all ages are combined, 29.8% of Quebec's English-speaking citizens are also members of a visible minority community. At 35.1%, English-speaking youth (15-29) exceed the provincial norm in their tendency to be members of a visible minority. The proportion of youth who are also members of a visible minority group varies widely by region from 53.1% in the Nord de L'Île de Montreal region and 49.8% in Centre Ouest de L'Île de Montreal to 1% in Cote-Nord and RTS de la Gaspésie.

When English and French speakers aged 15 to 29 years are compared, young English speakers are much more likely to be members of a visible minority group. A substantial 35.1% of Quebec's English-speaking youth are members of a visible minority compared to 12.6% of French-speakers the same age.

## Low Income

In 2016, English speakers living in Quebec (15-29) were much more likely to be living on a low income (\$20,000 or less) when compared to the provincial average for all ages combined. Among English-speaking youth, close to 70% (68.2%) are located in a low-income bracket compared to 38.5% of the total English-speaking population (15+).

Provincially, in 2016, 68.2% of English-speaking youth compared with 59.8% of French-speaking youth who were living on a low-income. When English-speaking youth are compared to majority language youth in their regional communities, they have a higher tendency to have an income of \$20k or less in 20 of 22 Quebec regions.

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## Living Below the Low-income cut-off (LICO)

When compared to the overall situation of the English-speaking population across the province of Quebec, English-speaking youth (15-29) are more likely to be experiencing socio-economic vulnerability. Among English-speaking youth, 23.6% are living below the low-income cut-off which is higher than the norm of 17.8% for the English-speaking population (all ages). When comparison is drawn between the proportion of English-speaking (23.6%) and French-speaking youth (14.9%) living below LICO, English speakers are more likely to be living in poverty.

## Lone-parent Households

When all ages are included, 12.4% of English-speaking Quebec dwell in a lone parent household arrangement. At 18.2%, English-speaking youth (15-29) exceed the provincial norm for English speakers in their tendency to live in single parent families. The proportion of youth living in a lone-parent family varies widely by region from 32% in the Gaspésie region to 11.1% in Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montreal and 12.2% in la Capitale-Nationale.

The variance between the youth of minority and majority language populations in their tendency to be living in a lone parent family is substantial. In some regions such as Gaspésie, 32% of English speakers are living in a lone-parent family compared to 21.5% of French speakers of the same age. In Abitibi-Témiscamingue 20.5% of English-speaking youth and 14.9% of French-speaking youth live in lone-parent households.

## Unemployment

In 2016, 13.3% of Quebec's English-speaking youth (15-29) were unemployed which was higher than the norm of 8.9% for the provincial English-speaking population as a whole (all ages). The variance between this age group and the provincial average for unemployment among English speakers is even greater in some regions. For example, in RTS de la Gaspésie, 31.4% of English-speaking youth (15-29) are unemployed compared to 24.4% of the total Anglophone group residing in the same territory.

Provincially, when comparison is drawn between the proportion of English-speaking youth (13.3%) and French-speaking youth (9.8%), the minority language group displays a higher level of unemployment and the gap between majority and minority language youth is substantially wider in several regions

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## Educational Attainment

When compared to the overall situation of the English-speaking population across the province of Quebec, English-speaking youth (15-29) are more likely to report low educational attainment. Among English-speaking youth, 51.6% report high school leaving or less as their highest level of educational attainment which is higher than the norm of 40.7% for the English-speaking population (all ages).

This varies regionally. In RTS d'Estrie, 62.4% of English-speaking youth have a high school diploma or less as their highest level of educational attainment compared to 53% of French-speaking youth. In RTS de la Gaspésie, 64.7% of youth 15-29 years of age report low educational attainment compared to 53.5% of Francophones the same age.

There is a notable gap between English-speaking and French-speaking youth with respect to their likelihood to have an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. In 2016, 15% of Francophone youth had completed this training compared to 6.5% of Anglophones the same age.

In 2016, 20.4% of English-speaking youth residing in Quebec claimed a university diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above as their highest level of educational attainment. This compares with 13.9% of French-speaking youth. This varies by region among Anglophone youth ranging from 39.7% in RTS Centre Sud de l'Île de Montreal and 32.4% in RTS du Centre Ouest de L'Île de Montreal to 4.7% in RTS de la Cote Nord and 5.4% in RTS de la Gaspésie

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# INTRODUCTION

## About Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN)

The CHSSN is a provincial network for the English-speaking communities of Quebec. The network has 65 members from various sectors and together they work to improve the health and vitality of individuals, families and communities. CHSSN is a backbone organization that supports the development of 21 community health and social service networks working in all regions in Quebec to address the needs of vulnerable groups, particularly those isolated and living in poverty. CHSSN mobilizes to take action addressing priority health determinants that impact English-speaking children and families, youth, seniors and caregivers.

## This Report

This CHSSN report profiles the situation of English-speaking citizens of Quebec who are engaged in the numerous transitions that are typically encountered between the ages of 15 and 29 in the critical passage from childhood to adulthood. Youth is a stage of life characterized by challenges that can be decisive in the quality of life of individuals and their communities and for the vast majority of Quebecers aged 15-29, these milestones are completing school, gaining occupational experience and even starting a family and establishing a household. This report offers current information organized to support “the village” - from policy-makers and program managers through to public institutions and community organizations and networks - whose actions impact the lives of minority language youth striving to build their future and the future of all Quebec’s citizens<sup>1</sup>.

## Data Source and Methodology

The information in this report is drawn from a series of tables developed by the Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN) based on data from the 2016 Census of Canada.

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<sup>1</sup> Secrétariat a la Jeunesse du Québec (2016). *The 2030 Quebec Youth Policy -Working Together for Current and Future Generations*. <https://www.jeunes.gouv.qc.ca/publications/politique-quebecoise-jeunesse.asp>

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## Demographic and Socio-economic Characteristics

The demographic and socio-economic variables addressed in this report are:

- Target population size and proportion
- Household living arrangements
- Visible minority status
- Income
- Low-income cut-off (LICO)
- Educational attainment
- Labour force activity

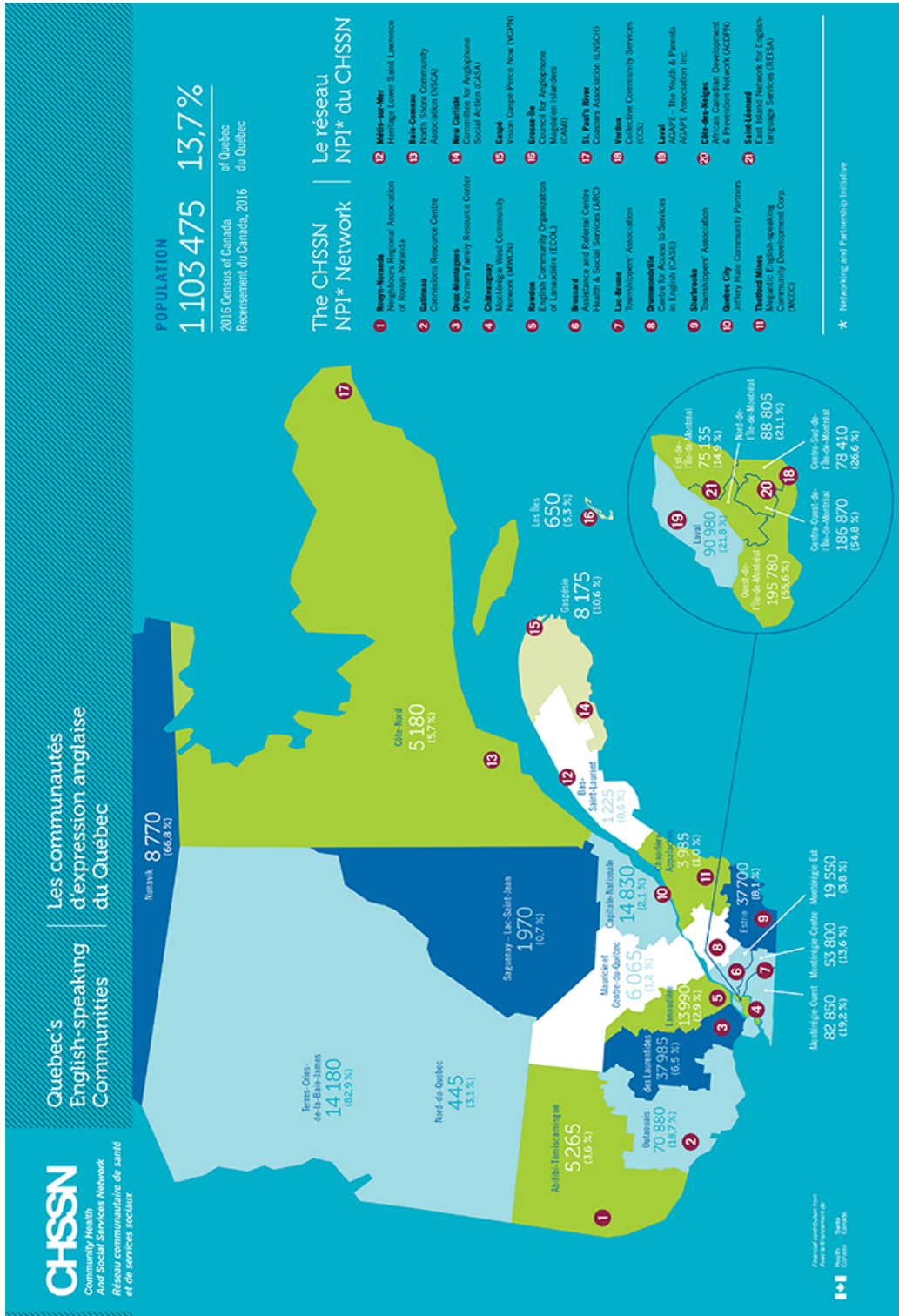
## Definitions

- Additional definition of Statistics Canada concepts may be accessed at <http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/ref/dict/index-eng.cfm>
- Youth refers to individuals 15-29 years of age.
- The language concept is First Official Language Spoken (FOLS), which is a derived language concept based on three census questions on knowledge of languages, mother tongue and home language. Multiple responses have been assigned equally according to declared languages.
- The RSS is the *region socio-sanitaire* which corresponds to the health regions of Quebec.
- The RTS is the *réseau territorial des services* which corresponds to the territories covered by the CISSS and CIUSSS bodies that were created recently by the government of Quebec.
- Immigrants are Canadian citizens residing in Canada who were born outside Canada along with persons with student or working visas. Temporary foreign workers are not included in this concept.
- Persons with low educational attainment are those with only a high school graduation certificate or less while those with high educational attainment are those with a university bachelor's degree or higher. This includes current high school students.
- Persons with low income are those with an individual income of \$20k or less while those with high income reported \$50k or more. This includes income from all sources.
- Low-income cut-off (LICO) is defined as the income below which a family is likely to spend 20% or more of its income on food, shelter and clothing than the average family.
- Census family households are those with a married couple (with or without children), or a couple living common-law (with or without children), or a lone parent living with one or more children (lone-parent family).

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- Non-census family households are those with either one person living alone in a private dwelling or to a group of two or more people who share a private dwelling, but who do not constitute a census family.
  - The concept of visible minorities in the Canadian context is provided by the Employment Equity Act which refers to, "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour." Under this definition, regulations specify the following groups as visible minorities: Chinese, South Asians, Blacks, Arabs, West Asians, Filipinos, Southeast Asians, Latin Americans, Japanese, Koreans and other visible minority groups, such as Pacific Islanders".  
<http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/nhsenm/2011/ref/guides/99-010-x/99-010-x2011009-eng.cfm>



# Map showing ESC by regional territory



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# SIZE AND SHARE OF THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION

## Introduction

Quebec's English-speaking youth are located in a population of 1.1 million English speakers living in Quebec. Together, English speakers comprise 13.8% (2016) of the total provincial population. Quebec's English-speaking communities range from more than 600,000 on the island of Montreal, and large population counts in nearby Montérégie (156,000) and Laval (91,115), to tiny populations in areas such as Bas-Saint-Laurent (1,080), Saguenay Lac-Saint-Jean (1,975) and des Îles (695). (See Appendix A for tables on population size and proportion and age structure according to RTS.)

Aside from being numerically smaller than the rest of the province's population, the English language communities of Quebec meet the criteria generally used to define a minority as a social group including:

- they do not occupy a dominant position
- they have a language and culture distinct from the larger population
- the members of the group have the will to preserve its specificity
- they are citizens of the provincial territory where they reside
- they have a long-term presence as a group in the territory where they reside

Among official language minority communities (OLMC) in Canada, Quebec's English-speaking population is the largest, followed by Ontario and New Brunswick's Francophone populations<sup>2</sup>.

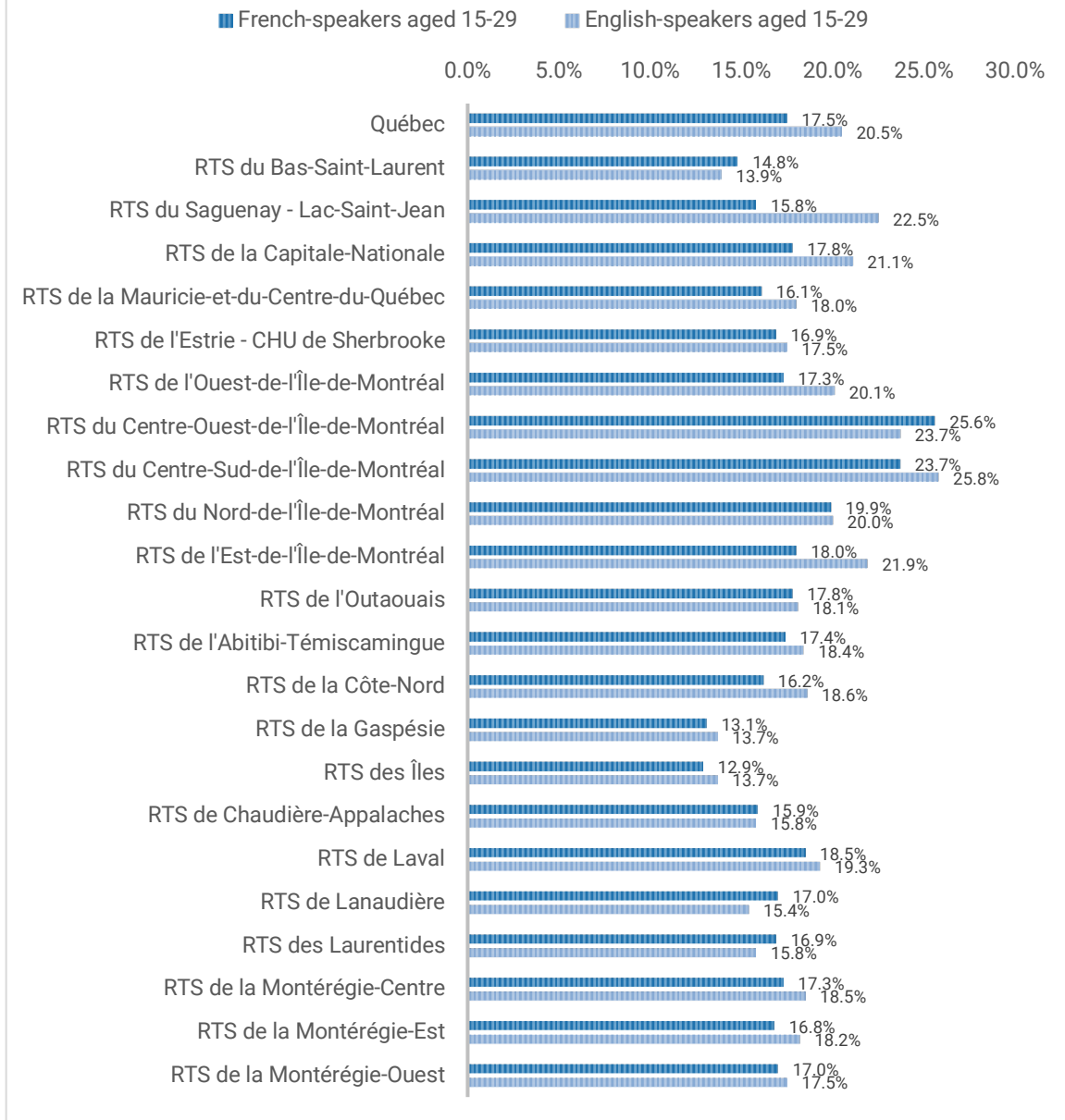
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<sup>2</sup> Canadian Heritage (2015b). *Socio-cultural Profile of Quebec, 1996-2011. A Selected Profile from the Communities in Context Research Initiative*. Gatineau: Research Team. Official Languages Branch, Department of Canadian Heritage.

Geography	English-speakers			French-speakers		
	Total	Aged 15-29	Aged 15-29 (%)	Total	Aged 15-29	Aged 15-29 (%)
Québec	1,097,925	225,585	20.5%	6,795,280	1,188,525	17.5%
RTS du Bas-Saint-Laurent	1,080	150	13.9%	188,850	28,010	14.8%
RTS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	1,975	445	22.5%	266,835	42,265	15.8%
RTS de la Capitale-Nationale	14,205	2,995	21.1%	693,190	123,550	17.8%
RTS de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	5,800	1,045	18.0%	484,485	77,815	16.1%
RTS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke	37,015	6,465	17.5%	420,840	71,035	16.9%
RTS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	194,935	39,270	20.1%	148,085	25,625	17.3%
RTS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	185,920	44,130	23.7%	142,460	36,445	25.6%
RTS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	77,840	20,110	25.8%	209,030	49,610	23.7%
RTS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	88,895	17,740	20.0%	314,375	62,630	19.9%
RTS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	74,575	16,295	21.9%	415,110	74,830	18.0%
RTS de l'Outaouais	70,575	12,775	18.1%	304,625	54,360	17.8%
RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	5,155	950	18.4%	137,920	24,055	17.4%
RTS de la Côte- Nord	5,175	965	18.6%	85,085	13,750	16.2%
RTS de la Gaspésie	8,090	1,110	13.7%	11,495	8,885	13.1%
RTS des Îles	695	95	13.7%	11,495	1,480	12.9%
RTS de Chaudière-Appalaches	3,755	595	15.8%	404,685	64,545	15.9%
RTS de Laval	91,115	17,595	19.3%	311,535	57,550	18.5%
RTS de Lanaudière	14,215	2,185	15.4%	471,020	80,035	17.0%
RTS des Laurentides	37,555	5,925	15.8%	538,755	90,985	16.9%
RTS de la Montérégie-Centre	53,570	9,905	18.5%	332,790	57,525	17.3%
RTS de la Montérégie-Est	19,130	3,475	18.2%	484,805	81,530	16.8%
RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest	83,300	14,615	17.5%	343,710	58,485	17.0%

There are 225,585 English-speaking youth (15-29) living in Quebec and they form a substantial 20.5% of their language population. As a point of comparison, French-speaking youth aged 15-29 comprise 17.5% of Quebec's majority language group. This proportion varies according to region as does the relative difference between the situations of Quebec's English and French language populations. For example, the proportion of English-speaking youth exceeds the provincial average for their language group in Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montreal at 25.8% and Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île de-Montreal at 23.7% while in other regions like Bas-Saint-Laurent at 13.9% and des Iles at 13.7%, the youth represent a much smaller proportion.

## PROPORTION OF THE POPULATION AGED 15 - 29 QUÉBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES, 2016



In some regions, like Estrie - CHU de Sherbrooke at 17.5% and RTS de la Gaspésie at 13.7%, the proportion of English-speaking youth (15-29) is similar to their French-speaking neighbours. In other regions, like Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and l'Est-de-Ile-de-Montreal, the proportion of youth is greater among Anglophones than Francophones. In the Saguenay, English-speaking youth comprise 22.5% of the English-speaking population while French-speaking youth comprise 15.8% of their language group. English-speaking youth in l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montreal comprise 21.9% of their regional population, while Francophone youth in the same region form 18% of theirs.

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# HOUSEHOLD LIVING ARRANGEMENTS

## Introduction

Household living arrangements may be used as an indicator of groups within a population that are vulnerable to poor health status. For example, young parents with children living in lone parent households are more likely to report food insecurity, high levels of psychological distress and having more than one health problem, compared to parents with other household arrangements.

The absence of a partner typically leaves single-parent families more vulnerable to socio-economic and health disadvantages than two-parent families. In Canada, nearly two in five children from lone-parent families (or 38.9%) lived in a low-income household in 2015. This rate was three and a half times higher than for children in two-parent families (11.2%). Furthermore, the vast majority of children living in a lone-parent family lived with their mother. The low-income rate for these children was much higher than for children who lived with their father (42.0% compared with 25.5%).<sup>3</sup>

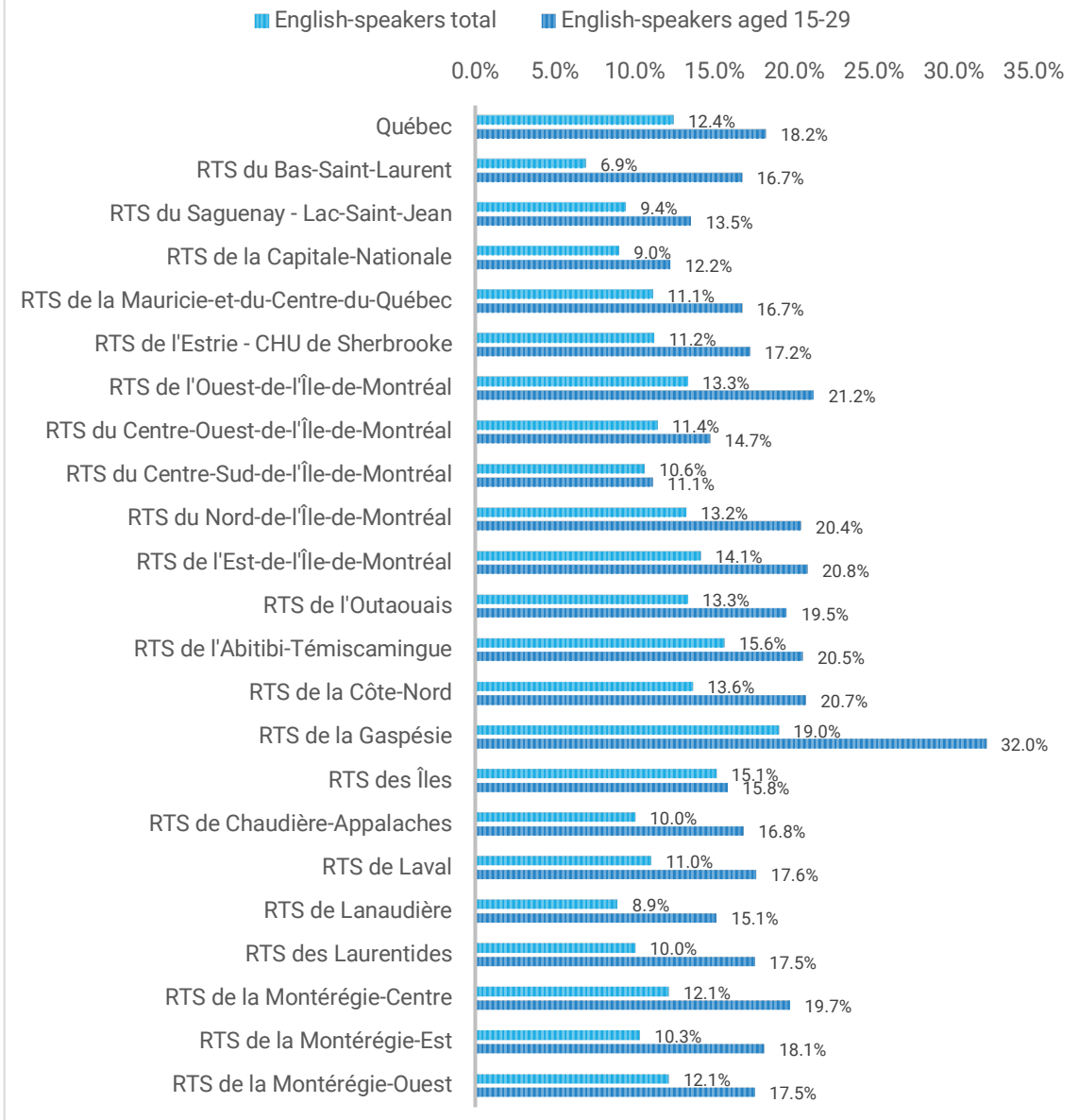
Reduced opportunities for education and employment and lack of access to early childhood services contribute to the greater likelihood that single mothers and their children are in poor physical and mental health compared to two-parent families.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Statistics Canada, (2017). *Children living in low-income households*. Accessed March/2017  
[.http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/as-sa/98-200-x/2016012/98-200-x2016012-eng.cfm](http://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2016/as-sa/98-200-x/2016012/98-200-x2016012-eng.cfm)

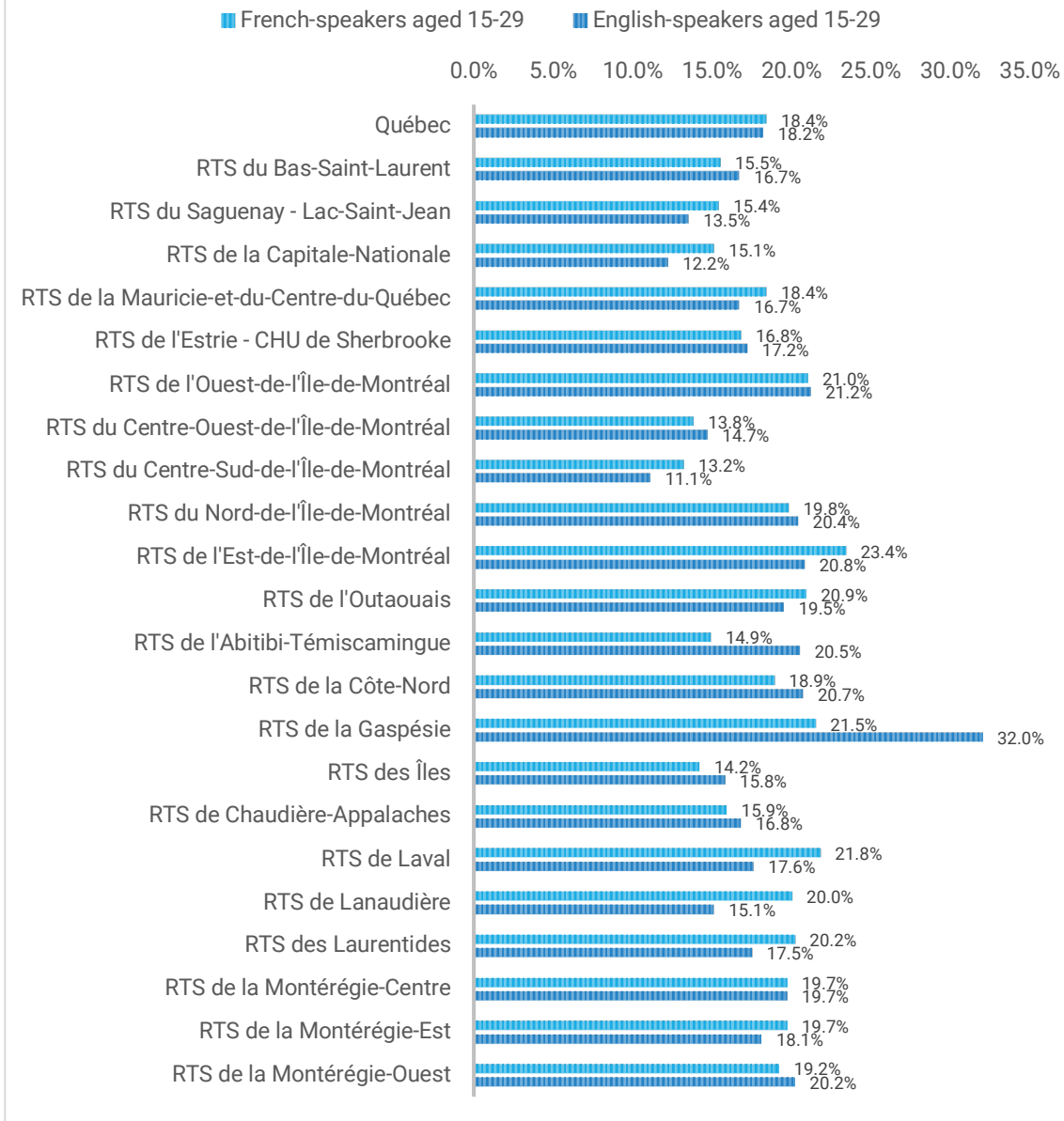
<sup>4</sup> Gucciardi, E., Celasun, N. and Stewart, D. (2004). Single-mother Families in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Public Health/ Revue Canadienne de Santé Publique*. February, Volume 95, No.1 p. 70-73

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 IN LONE PARENT FAMILIES IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION  
QUÉBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES, 2016**



When all ages are included, 12.4% of English-speaking Quebec dwell in a lone parent household arrangement. At 18.2%, English-speaking youth (15-29) exceed the provincial norm for English speakers to live in single parent families. The proportion of youth living in a lone parent family varies widely by region from 32% in the Gaspésie region to 11.1% in Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montreal and 12.2% in la Capitale-Nationale.

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 IN LONE PARENT FAMILIES IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION QUÉBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES, 2016**



The regions where the difference between the youth of minority and majority language populations are greatest are Gaspésie wherein 32% of English speakers are living in a lone-parent family compared to 21.5% of French speakers of the same age; Abitibi-Témiscamingue wherein 20.5% of English-speaking youth and 14.9% of French-speaking youth live in lone-parent households and in Lanaudière, where at 15.1%, English-speaking youth are less likely to be living in a lone-parent family arrangement compared to French-speaking youth at 20%.

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When it comes to the 15-29 age group, it is important to be alert to the fact that the cohort includes young parents caring for young children and, specifically, lone parents. Provincially, the proportion of pre-school children (0-5) living in a lone-parent family is similar among English-speaking and French-speaking communities (13.8% compared to 12.8%).

Regionally, the difference between English-speaking and French-speaking communities can be much greater. In the Gaspésie-Iles-de-la-Madeleine region, 36.3% of pre-school English-speaking children live in lone-parent families, often with parents aged 15-29, compared to 15.3% of French-speaking children.



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## VISIBLE MINORITY MEMBERS

Health Canada includes culture among the factors it acknowledges as significantly affecting health (i.e. a *determinant* of health).<sup>5</sup> A social group may face additional health risks where dominant cultural values contribute to their marginalization, to the loss or devaluation of their language and culture, and to barriers in access to culturally-appropriate health care and services. Economic vulnerability, lack of recognition or sense of belonging, and the lack of voice associated with discrimination and social exclusion are linked to various health risks.<sup>6</sup> In the case of Quebec’s English speakers, those who are members of a visible minority group are more likely to be living in poverty compared to those who are not. For example, in 2011 close to 40 percent (39.7%) of Montréal’s English-speaking black community were living below the low-income cut-off.<sup>7</sup>

Culture is considered to be the glue that makes a social group *a group*, so its loss or devaluation strikes at the very heart of a community’s capacity to engage and mobilize around structural inequalities and improving access to critical resources.

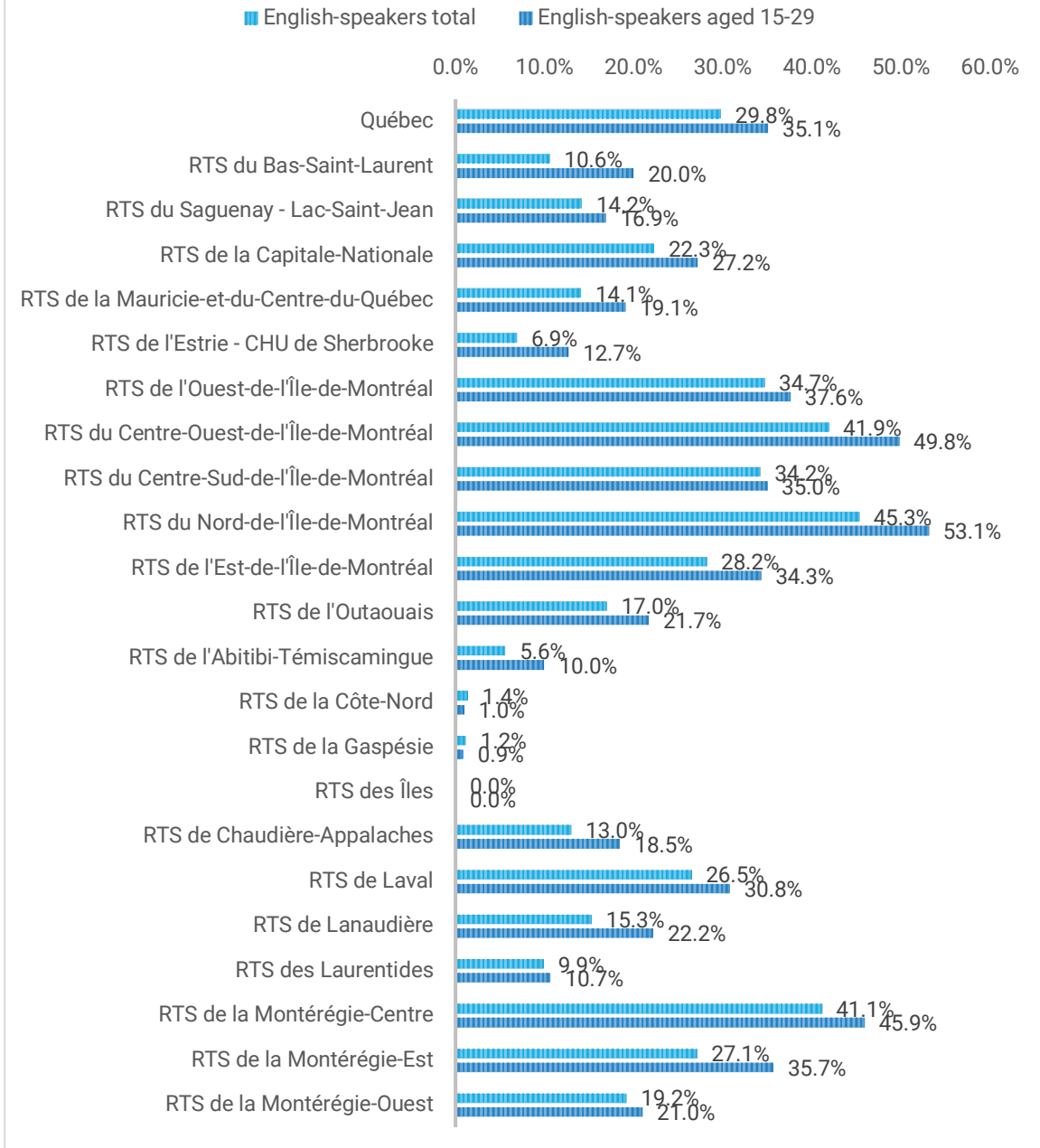
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<sup>5</sup> For discussion of the health determinants outlined by Health Canada see Dennis Raphael in “Introduction to the Social Determinants of Health”, pp.1-18, in Raphael, D. (ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholar’s Press Inc, 2002.

<sup>6</sup> Grace-Edward Galabuzi cites extensive research which demonstrates that groups experiencing some form of social exclusion tend to sustain higher health risks and lower health status in her article entitled “Social Exclusion”, pp.235-251, in Raphael, D.(ed.) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*. Toronto: Canadian Scholar’s Press Inc, 2002. M

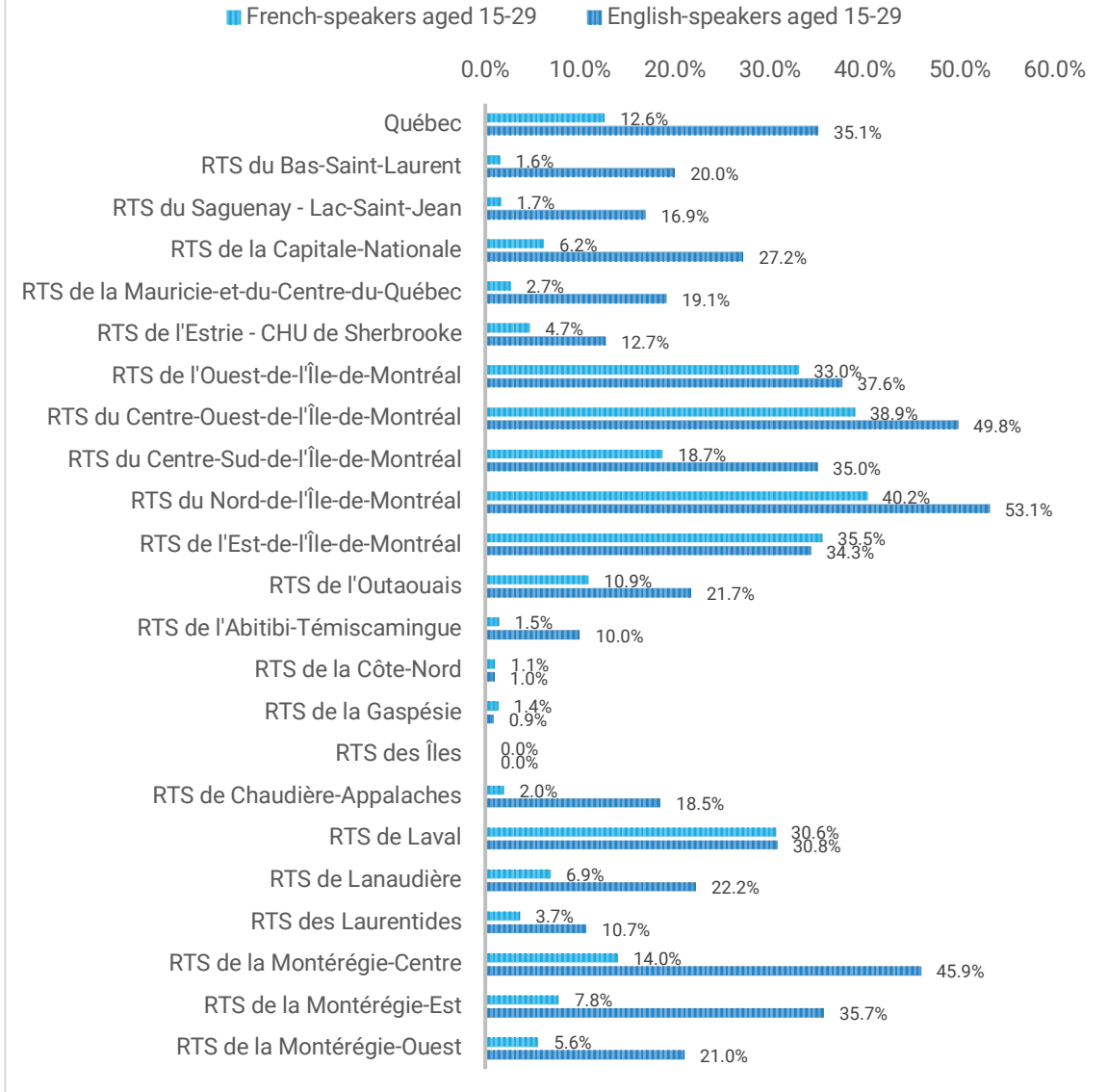
<sup>7</sup> Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN) (2015). *Socio-demographic Characteristics of Visible Minorities in Quebec’s English-speaking Communities*.p.42. <http://chssn.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Visible-Minority-Profiles-En.pdf>

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WHO WERE MEMBERS OF A VISIBLE MINORITY IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION**



When all ages are included, 29.8% of Quebec’s English-speaking citizens are also members of a visible minority community. At 35.1%, English-speaking youth 15-29 exceed the provincial norm in their tendency to be members of a visible minority. The proportion of youth who are also members of a visible minority group varies widely by region from 53.1% in the Nord de L’Île de Montreal region and 49.8% in Centre Ouest de L’Île de Montreal to 1% in Cote-Nord and RTS de la Gaspésie.

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WHO WERE MEMBERS OF A VISIBLE MINORITY IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATIONS**



When English and French speakers aged 15 to 29 years are compared, young English speakers are much more likely to be members of a visible minority group. A substantial 35.1% of Quebec’s English-speaking youth are members of a visible minority compared to 12.6% of French-speakers the same age.

There is a wide variance between the majority and minority language populations in many regions with respect to this characteristic, most notably throughout Montérégie, Capitale-Nationale and Montreal.

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## INCOME<sup>8</sup>

Long-standing and substantial research provides evidence that income and social status are key determinants of the level of health and well-being experienced by communities and their members. Low-income Canadians are more likely to die earlier and to suffer more illnesses than Canadians with higher incomes, regardless of age, sex, race and place of residence.<sup>9</sup> For vulnerable low-income households, language barriers to accessing public health services loom large as they cannot afford private care services and they are less likely to have work-related benefits or private insurance coverage. Studies also suggest that the distribution of income in a given society may be a more important determinant of health than the total amount of income earned by society members. Large gaps in income distribution lead to increases in social problems and poorer health among the population as a whole<sup>10</sup>.

### Low income

Overall, Quebec's English-speaking communities experience a higher rate of low-income when compared to their Francophone counterparts. Provincially, with all age groups combined (15+), 38.5% of Quebec's English-speaking population lives on an annual income of \$20,000 or less. Despite an overall slight decline in low income, figures based on Statistics Canada 2006 Census, 2011 National Household Survey and the 2016 Census tell us that the gap between English speakers' and French speakers' likelihood to have a low income has grown over the last decade. Further, a 2012 study produced by the Institut National de Santé Publique du Quebec reports that not only have Anglophones lost a relative socioeconomic advantage in comparison with Francophones over recent decades, but also there are widening gaps within the Anglophone population itself.<sup>11</sup> The study notes that "income inequalities are greater in the Anglophone population of Quebec at every level when compared to Francophones".<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>8</sup> All labour force data such as figures on income and unemployment is calculated for census respondents 15 years of age and over with the exception of LICO. Other findings such as living arrangements, language data, etc. include all age groups.

<sup>9</sup> Public Health Agency of Canada, <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/ph-sp/determinants/determinants-eng.php#evidence> Accessed March 2014

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> **Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec. (2012). *The Socioeconomic Status of Anglophones in Quebec*. Gouvernement du Québec. This study uses mother tongue as the variable identifying membership in the Anglophone or Francophone community. This is defined as the first language learned at home in childhood and still understood by the person in question.**

<http://chssn.org/pdf/En/INSPQ/SituationSocioEconoAngloQc.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> Institut National de Santé Publique du Québec. (2012). *The Socioeconomic Status of Anglophones in Quebec*. Gouvernement du Québec. P.24 <http://chssn.org/pdf/En/INSPQ/SituationSocioEconoAngloQc.pdf>

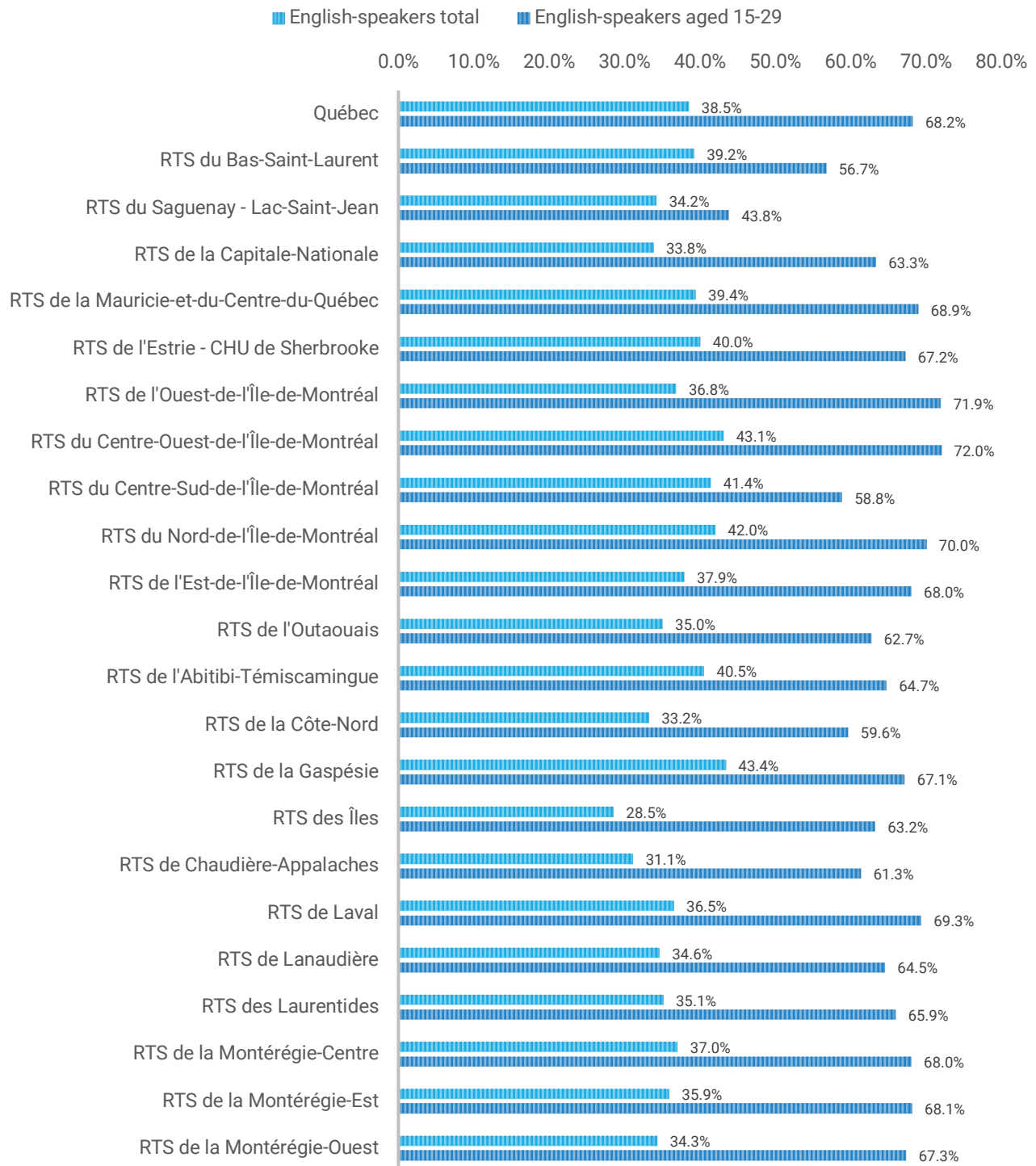
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A composite socio-economic indicator developed by the Department of Canadian Heritage in 2015 also underlines very high levels of socio-economic vulnerability among Quebec's language minority noting especially the regions of Gaspésie-Iles-de-la-Madeleine, Nord-du-Quebec, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Cote-Nord and Estrie.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Canadian Heritage (2015a). *Composite Indicators of Official-Language Minority Communities in Canada*. Gatineau: Research Team, Official Languages Branch, Department of Canadian Heritage.

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH TOTAL INCOME  
OF \$20,000 OR LESS IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING  
POPULATION  
RTS DE LA CAPITALE-NATIONALE AND ITS RTS  
TERRITORIES, 2016**

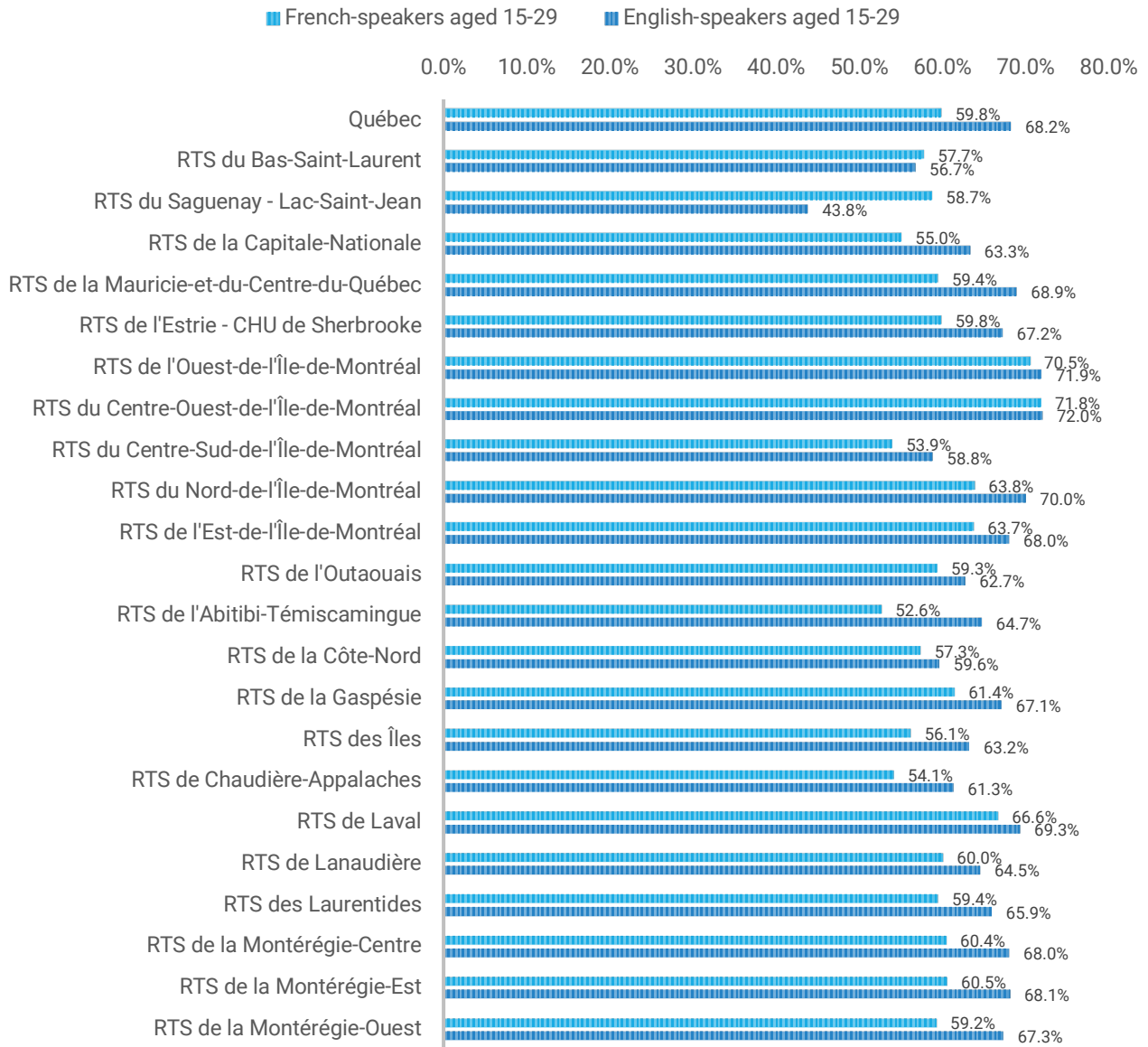


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In 2016, English speakers living in Quebec aged 15-29 years were much more likely to be living on a low income (\$20,000 or less) when compared to the provincial average for all ages combined. Among English-speaking youth, close to 70% (68.2%) are located in a low-income bracket compared to 38.5% of the total English-speaking population (15+).

In fact, this age group is more likely to be living on a low-income compared to the average for English speakers in every region of the province. In several regions, the tendency of youth to have a low-income exceeds even the provincial average for English-speaking 15-29 group (68.2%) such as Centre-Ouest (72%), l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montreal (71.9%), Nord-de-l'Île (70%) and Laval (69.3%).

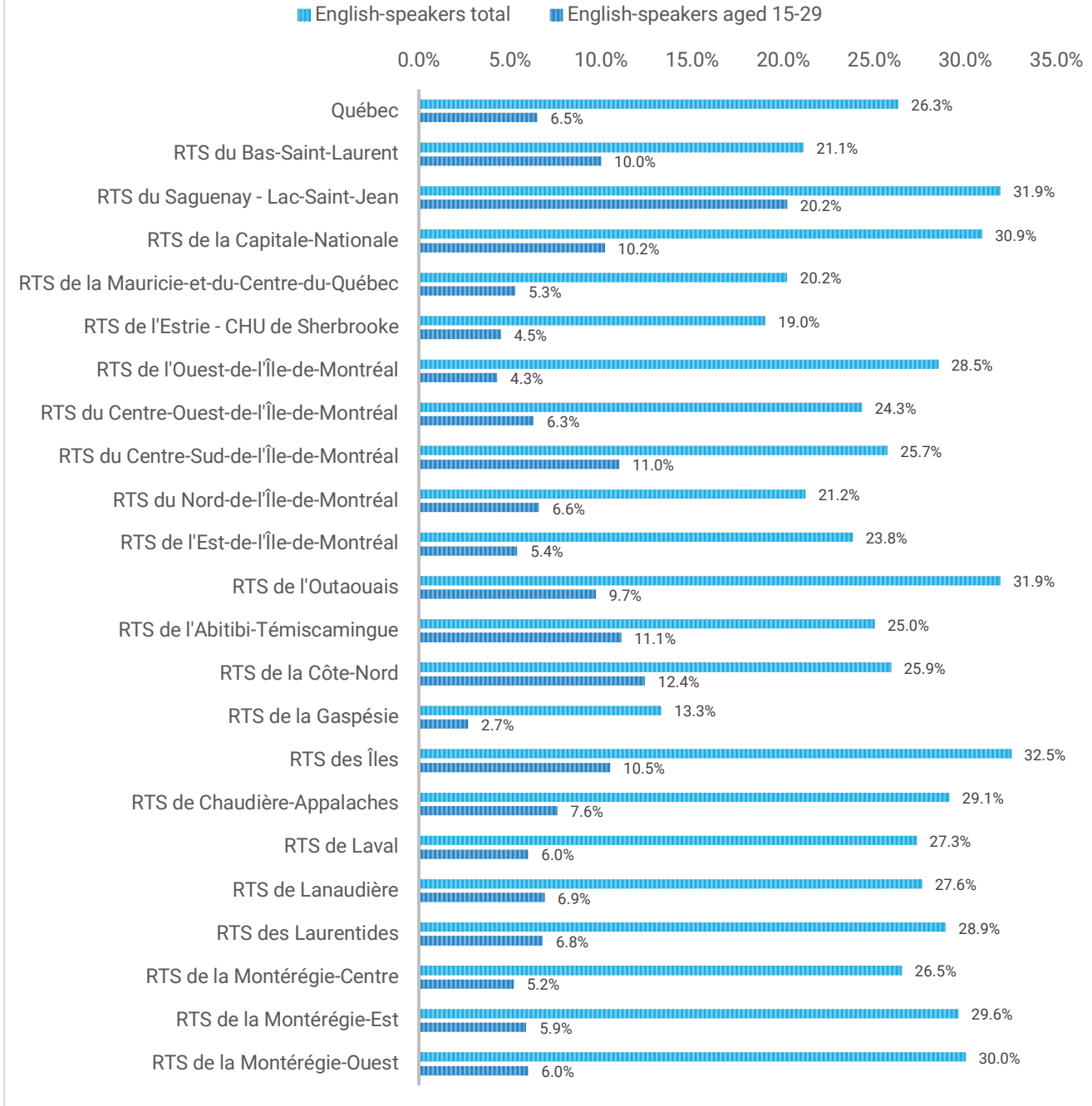
**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH TOTAL INCOME OF \$20,000 OR LESS IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATIONS  
RTS DE LA CAPITALE-NATIONALE AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES, 2016**



Provincially, 68.2% of English-speaking youth compares with 59.8% of French-speaking youth who are living on a low-income. When English-speaking youth are compared to majority language youth in their regional communities, they have a higher tendency to have an income of \$20k or less in 20 of 22 Quebec regions.



**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH INCOME OVER \$50,000 IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION QUEBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES**



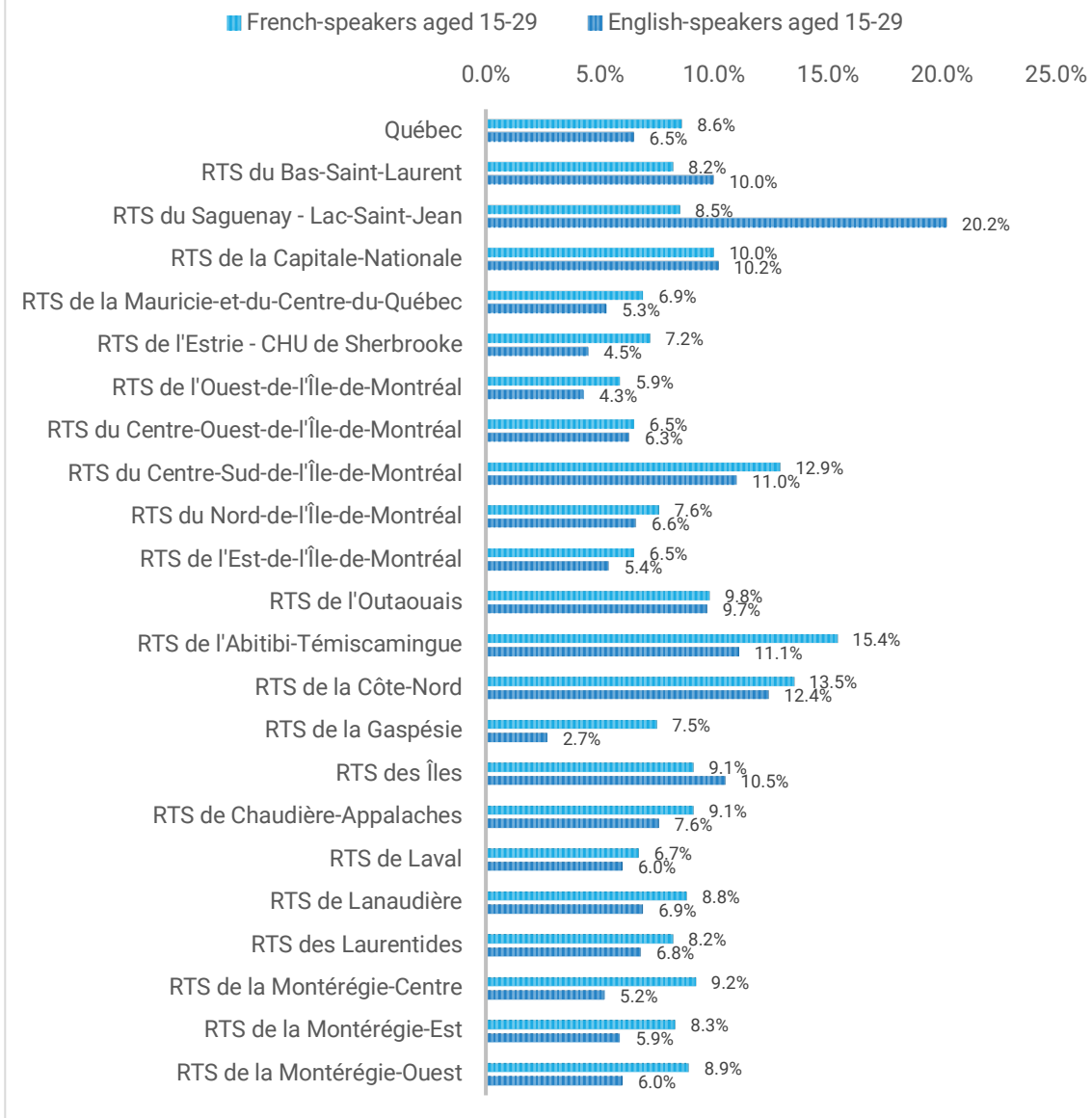
Among English speakers residing in Quebec, 26.3% have a high income of \$50,000 or more. There are substantial differences between the provincial average for high income among English speakers as a whole and the situation of the 15-29 age group in every region.

In the Outaouais region, the average proportion of high income (\$50k or more) earners among Anglophones (all ages) is 31.9% compared to 9.7% among Anglophone youth (15-29). In

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Montérégie Est, the proportion for high income among English speakers (all ages) is 29.6% compared to 5.9% for those aged 15-29. In des Îles, the average for the English-speaking regional community is 32.5% compared to 10.5% among youth. In Capitale-Nationale, the proportion of English speakers with a high income is 30.9% compared to 10.2% of the region's English-speaking youth.

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH INCOME OVER \$50,000 IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATIONS QUEBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES**



Among English speakers 15-29, 6.5% have a high income and this compares to 8.6% of Francophones the same age. In 19 out of 22 regions, the proportion of English-speaking youth who have a high income is smaller than the proportion of majority language youth.

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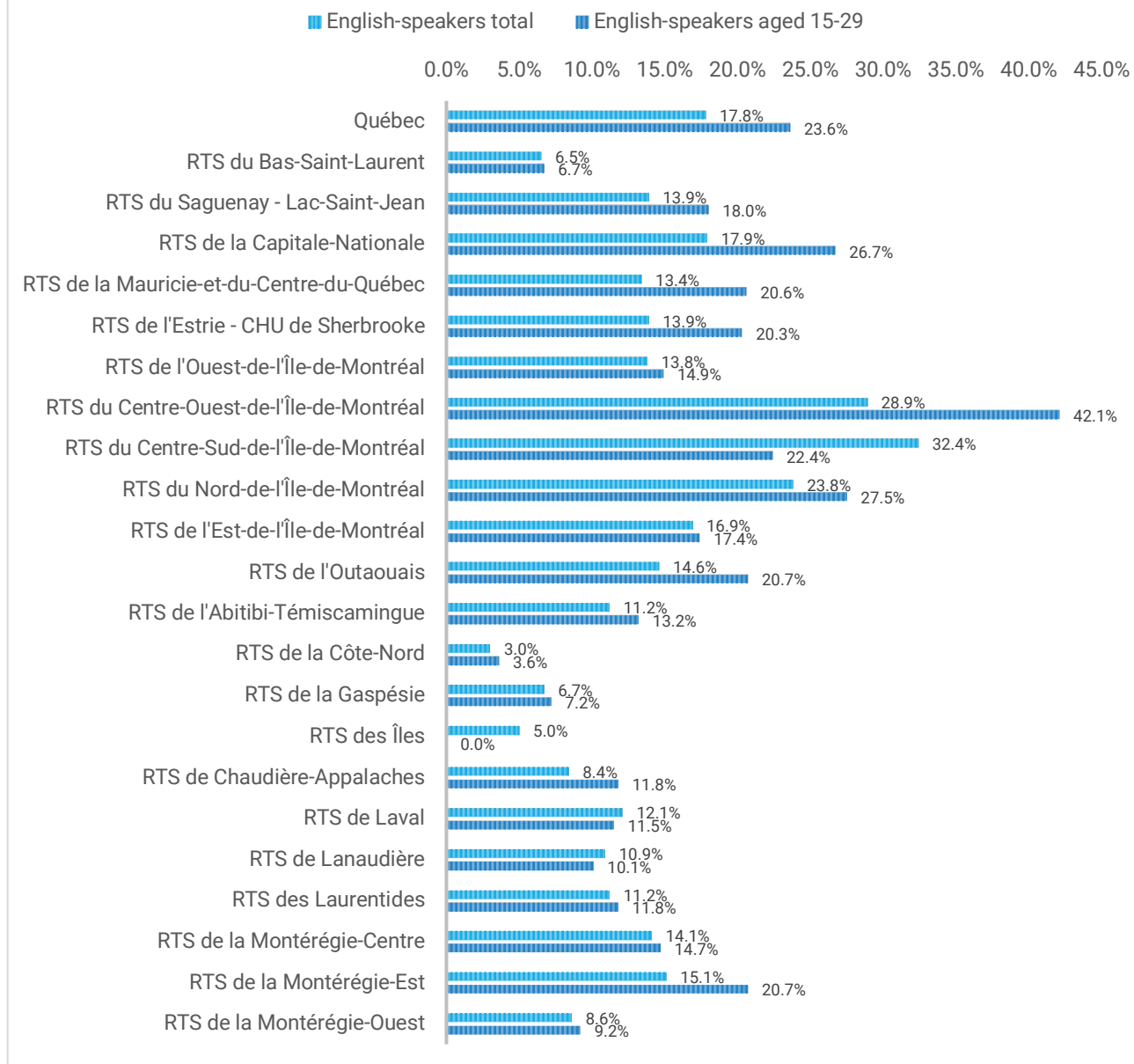
## LIVING BELOW THE LOW-INCOME CUT-OFF (LICO)

Although there is no official measure of poverty in Canada, the Statistics Canada measure of Low Income Cut-Offs (LICO) is probably the best known. Commonly known as the “poverty line”, LICO uses the income levels of a given family and considers how large a share of its income is spent on necessities such as food, shelter and clothing. If the amount a family spends is 20% higher than an average family in a year, it falls into the low-income cut-off category. People who live below income cut-offs may be said to live in “straitened circumstances.”<sup>14</sup> The accompanying graphs consider the population living below LICO by language, administrative territory and age group.

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<sup>14</sup> See “*Low Income in Canada: 2000-2007 Using the Market Basket Measure*” August 2009 by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada for a breakdown on various Low Income Measurements. Available online at <http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/publications>

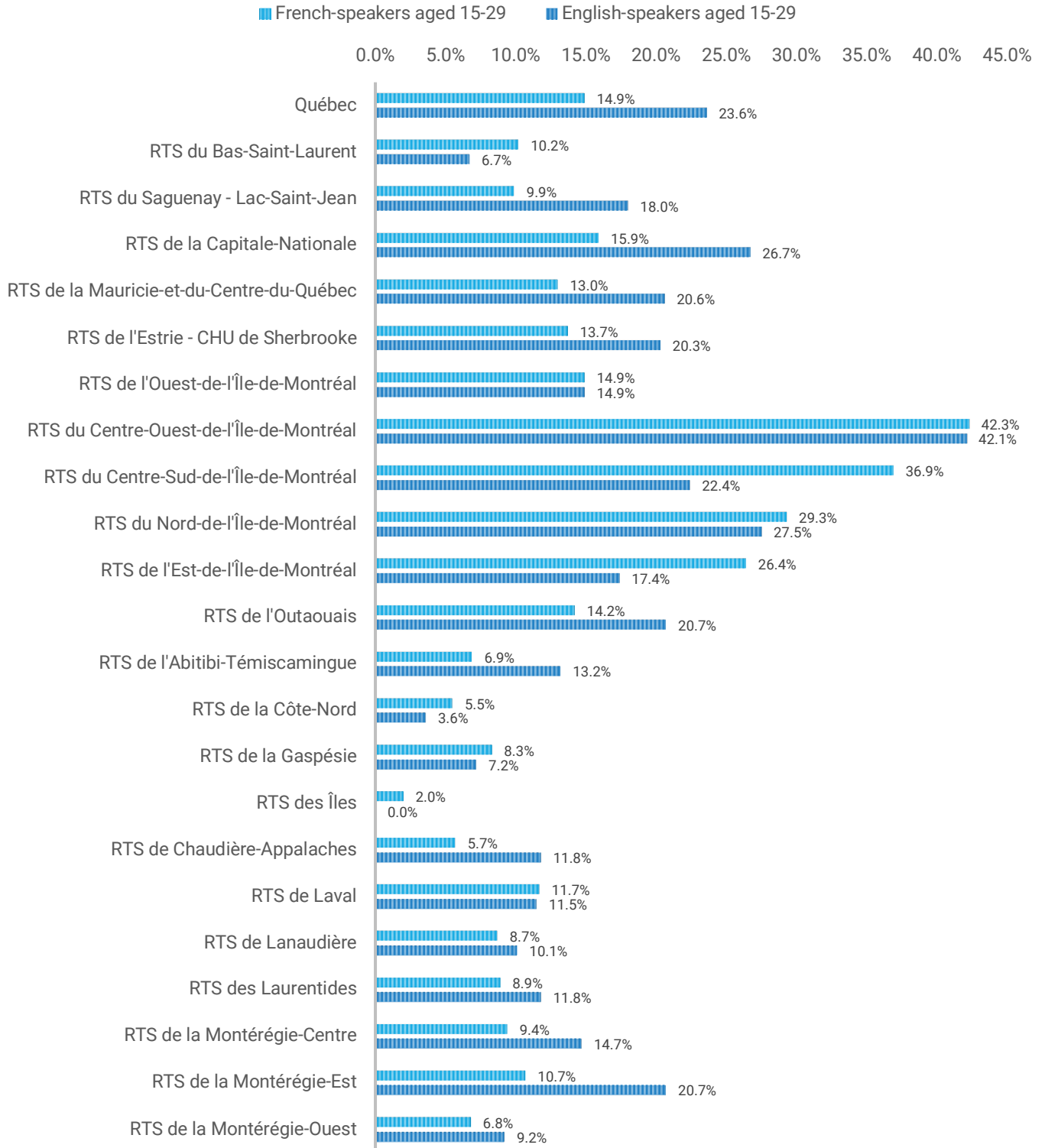
## PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 LIVING BELOW LICO IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION QUEBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES



When compared to the overall situation of the English-speaking population across the province of Quebec, English-speaking youth (15-29) are more likely to be experiencing socio-economic vulnerability. Among English-speaking youth, 23.6% are living below the low-income cut-off which is higher than the norm of 17.8% for the English-speaking population (all ages).

The proportion of English-speaking youth living below the low-income cut-off ranges as high as 44.4% in Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montreal, 42.1% in Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montreal and 27.5% in Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montreal.

**PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 LIVING BELOW LICO IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATIONS QUEBEC AND ITS RTS TERRITORIES, 2016**



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When comparison is drawn between the proportion of English-speaking (23.6%) and French-speaking youth (14.9%) living below LICO, English speakers are more likely to be living in poverty. Looking across the regions, we observe a consistent variance between the majority and minority language youth, for example, in Montérégie-Est 20.7% of Anglophone youth live below LICO compared to 10.7% of Francophones the same age; in Capitale-Nationale, 26.8% of English-speaking youth live below LICO compared to 15.9% of French-speaking youth; in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, 18% of minority language youth live below LICO compared to 9.9% of their majority language neighbors and in the Outaouais region, 21% of Anglophone youth and 14.2% of Francophone youth live below LICO.

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## LABOUR FORCE ACTIVITY

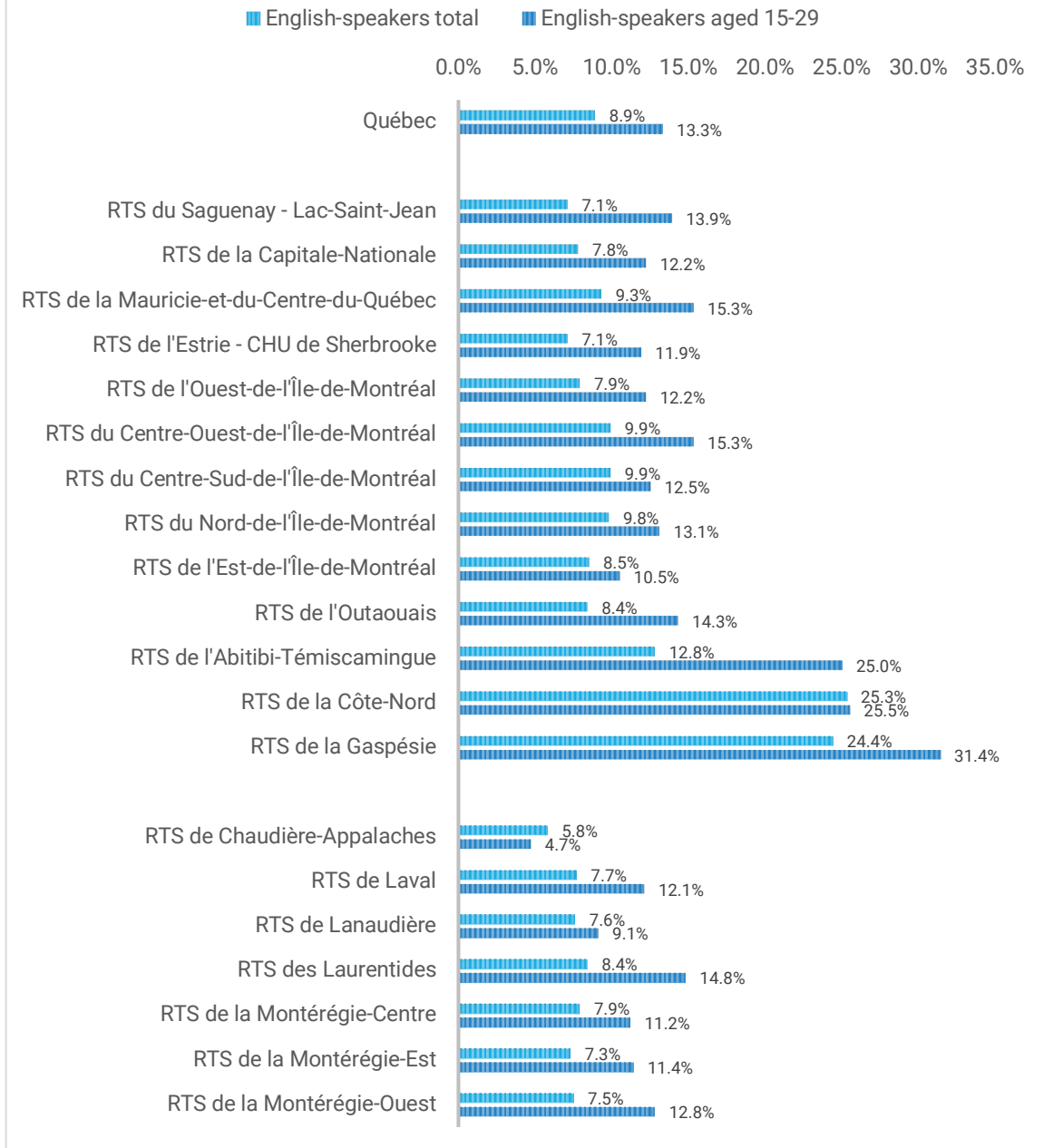
The rate and type of labour force participation experienced by a community and its members is strongly associated with health status. In industrial nations like Canada, labour force activity is linked with level of income as well as the level of social integration enjoyed by a group. Employment is an important source of social identity and a key context for the establishment of a social support network that extends beyond the workplace. For an individual, work is an important source of the self-esteem and sense of control typically associated with good mental health.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> For further discussion of employment and working conditions as health determinants and the population health model see D. Raphael (ed.) (2009) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*, 2nd Edition. Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press.

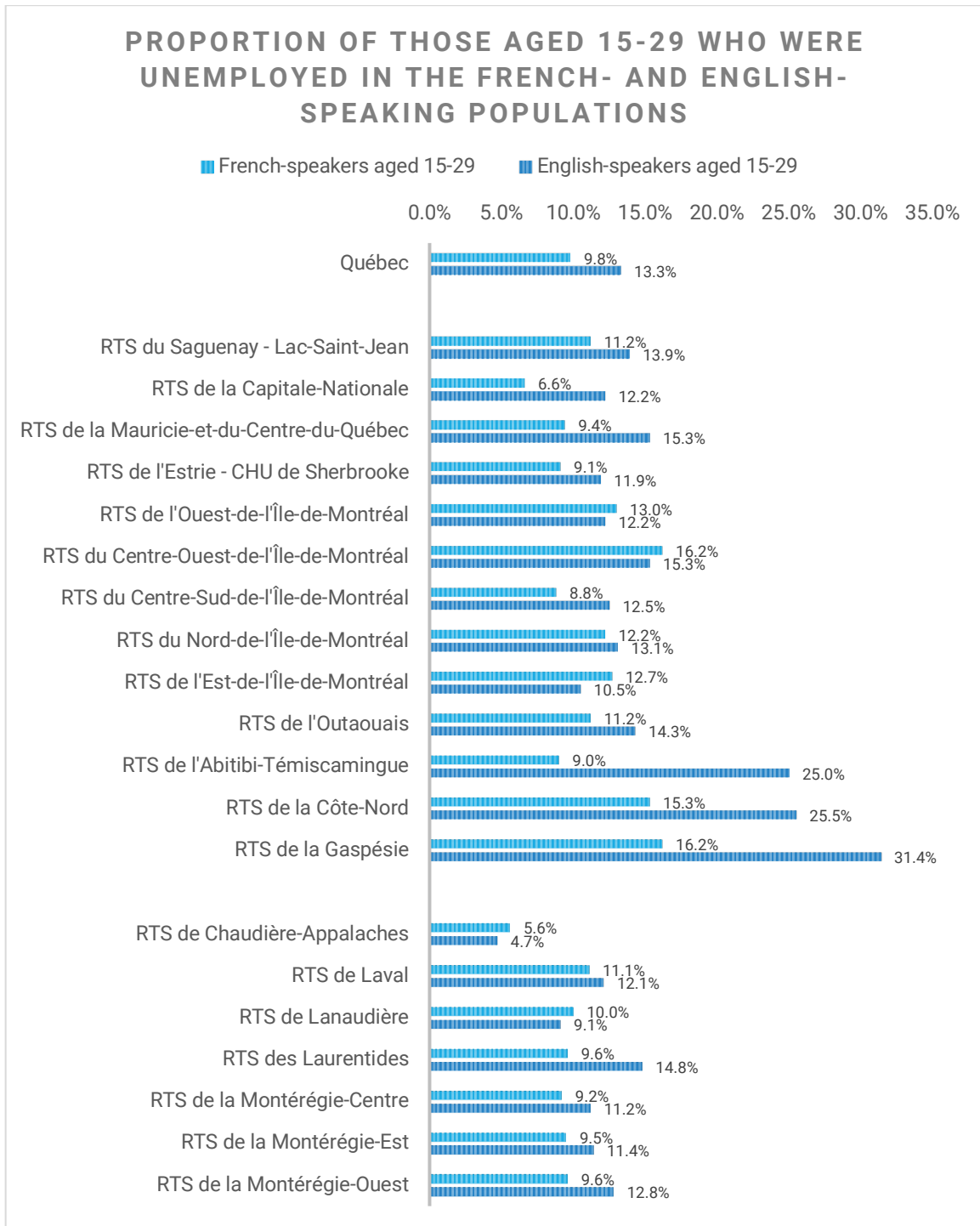


## PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WHO WERE UNEMPLOYED IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION



In 2016, 13.3% of Quebec's English-speaking youth (15-29) were unemployed which was higher than the norm of 8.9% for the provincial English-speaking population as a whole (all ages). The variance between this age group and the provincial average for unemployment among English speakers is even greater in some regions. For example, in RTS de la Gaspésie, 31.4% of English-speaking youth (15-29) are unemployed compared to 24.4% of the total Anglophone group residing in the same territory. In RTS du Centre Ouest de L'Île de Montreal, 15.3% of English-

speaking youth are unemployed compared to the unemployment rate of 9.9% among English speakers (all ages) in the region and in RTS de Estrie, 11.9% of English-speaking youth are unemployed compared to 7.1% of total English speakers.



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Provincially, when comparison is drawn between the proportion of English-speaking youth (13.3%) and French-speaking youth (9.8%), the minority language group displays a notably higher level of unemployment. The gap between majority and minority language youth is substantially wider in several regions such as RTS de la Gaspésie where 31.4% of English speakers 15-29 are unemployed compared to 16.2% of French speakers the same age, RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue where 25% of English-speaking youth are unemployed compared to 9% of Francophone youth and RTS de la Cote-Nord where 25.5% of English speaking youth are unemployed compared to 15.3% of majority language youth. Among 20 of the regional populations with sufficient number to permit reporting, 14 regions display higher unemployment rates among English-speaking youth when compared to French speakers the same age.

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## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

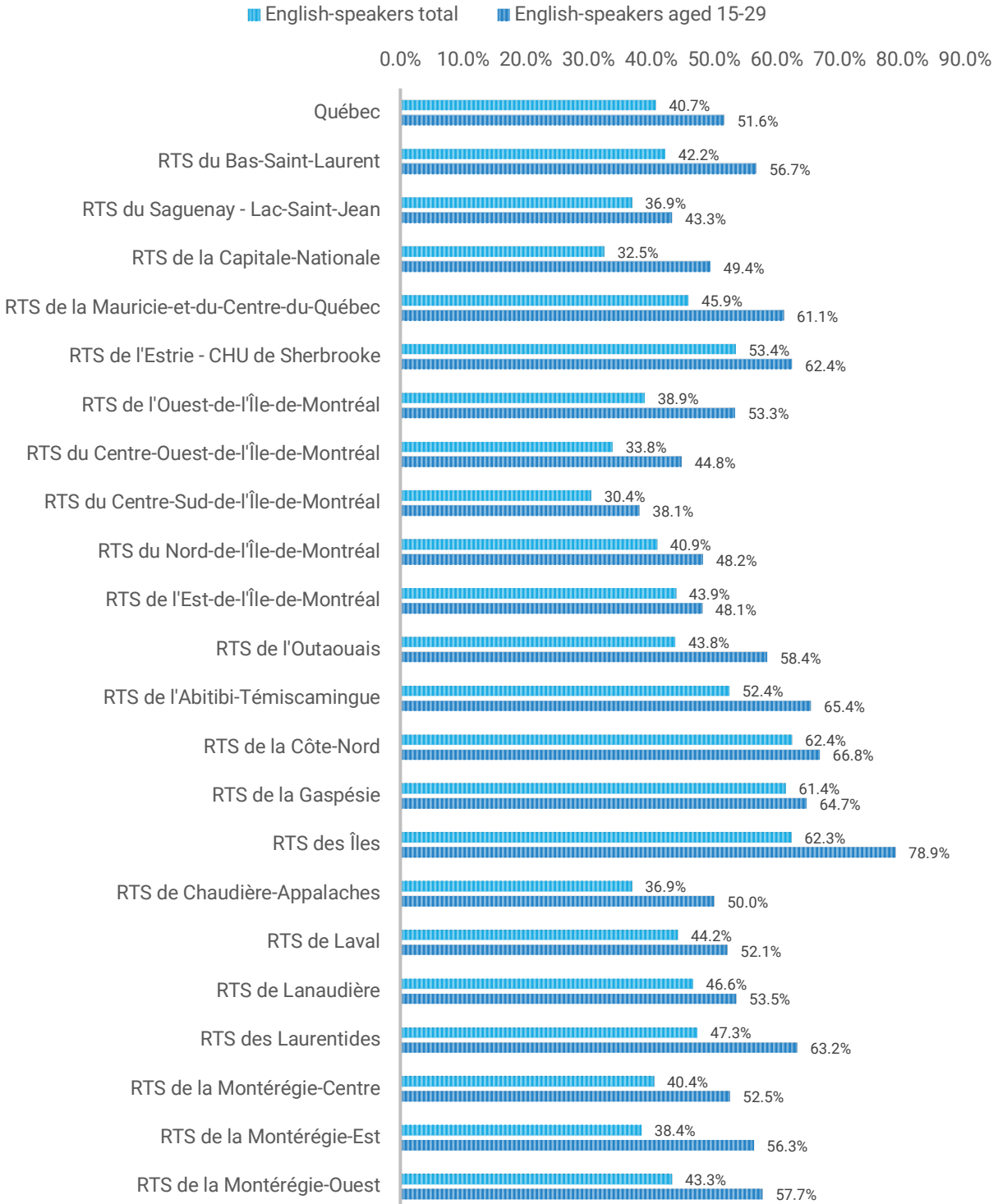
In many ways, education is an important determinant of the health status of a community. In Canada, the level of education achieved by an individual tends to be an indicator of social status, and ideally, a predictor of economic opportunity. The overall level of health literacy and preventative health practice enjoyed by a community also tends to be associated with the years of schooling by those included among its members<sup>16</sup>. Aside from ensuring academic success or instruction in English, the role of education in a minority language context is linked to the transmission of its collective history and culture over generations, and providing minority language youth with the tools and skills required to actively contribute to Quebec society as full citizens.<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> For further discussion of education as a health determinant see D. Raphael. (ed.) (2009) *Social Determinants of Health: Canadian Perspectives*, 2nd edition. Toronto: Canadian Scholar's Press.

<sup>17</sup> Gonslaves,A, Kueber, R.,Langevin,P. and Pocock,J. (2014). *Partnering for the Well-being of Minority English-Language Youth ,Schools & Communities*. Leading English Education and Resource Network (LEARN), Community Learning Centre Initiative (CLC), Community Health and Social Services Network (CHSSN). p.4 <http://chssn.org/pdf/En/CHSSN-LEARN-Booklet-2014-EN.pdf>

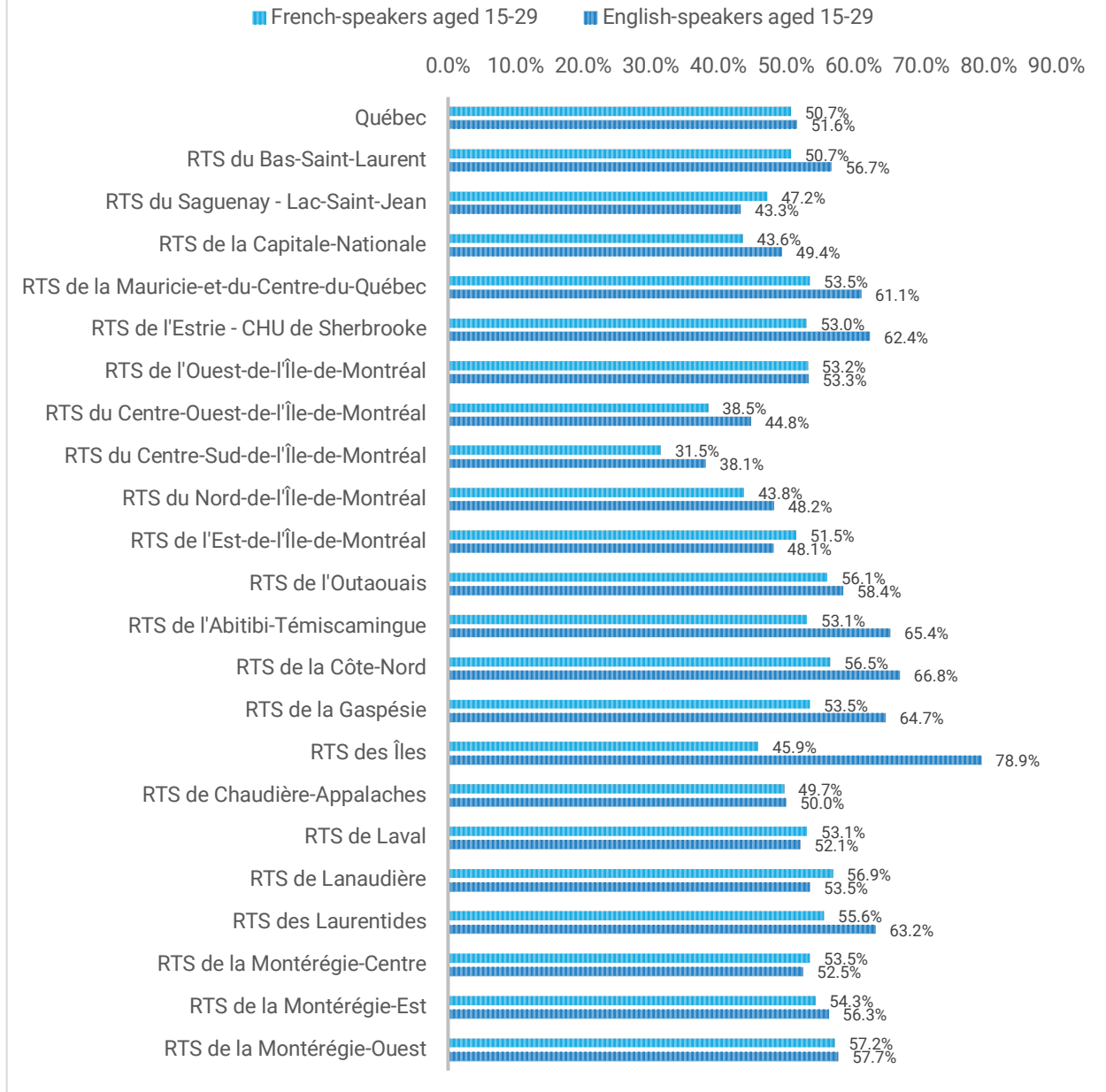
## PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH LOW EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION



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When compared to the overall situation of the English-speaking population across the province of Quebec, English-speaking youth (15-29) are more likely to report low educational attainment. Among English-speaking youth, 51.6% report high school leaving or less as their highest level of educational attainment which is higher than the norm of 40.7% for the English-speaking population (all ages). This proportion varies by region for English-speaking youth ranging from a high of 78.9% in RTS des Iles, 66.8% in RTS de la Cote Nord and 65.4% in RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue to a low of 38.1% in RTS du Centre Sud de l'Île de Montreal and 43.3% in RTS du Saguenay-Lac Saint Jean.

## PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH LOW EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATIONS



Provincially, when comparison is drawn between the proportion of English-speaking (51.6%) and French-speaking youth (50.7%) with high school leaving or less as their highest level of educational attainment, the majority and minority language groups are similar. At the level of RTS territory, however, greater variances are observed between these language communities. For example, in RTS de Estrie, 62.4% of English-speaking youth have a high school diploma or less as their highest level of educational attainment compared to 53% of French-speaking

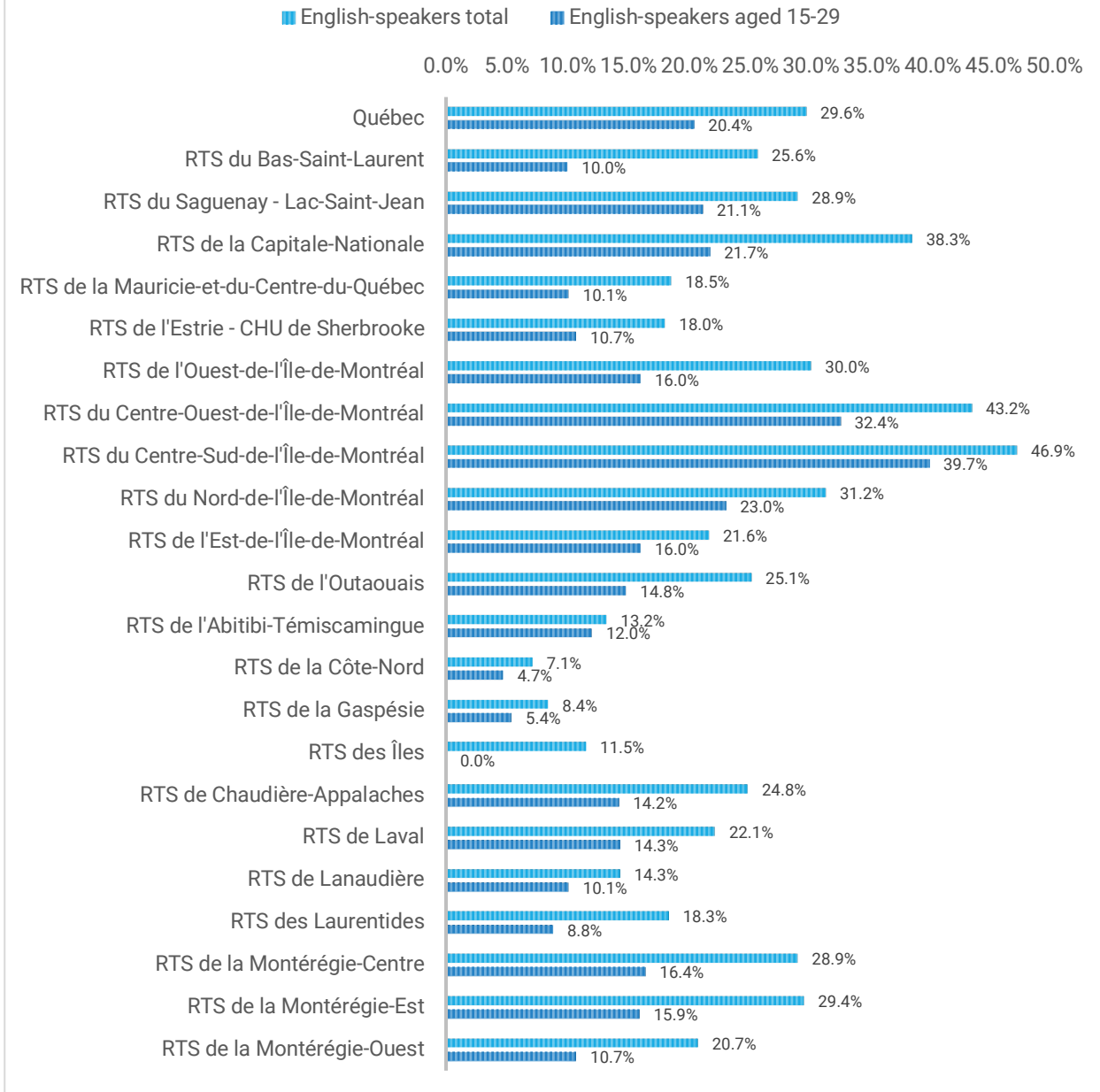
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youth. In RTS de la Gaspésie, 64.7% of youth 15-29 years of age report low educational attainment compared to 53.5% of Francophones the same age.

There is a notable gap between English-speaking and French-speaking youth with respect to their likelihood to have an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma. In 2016, 15% of Francophone youth had completed this training compared to 6.5% of Anglophones the same age.

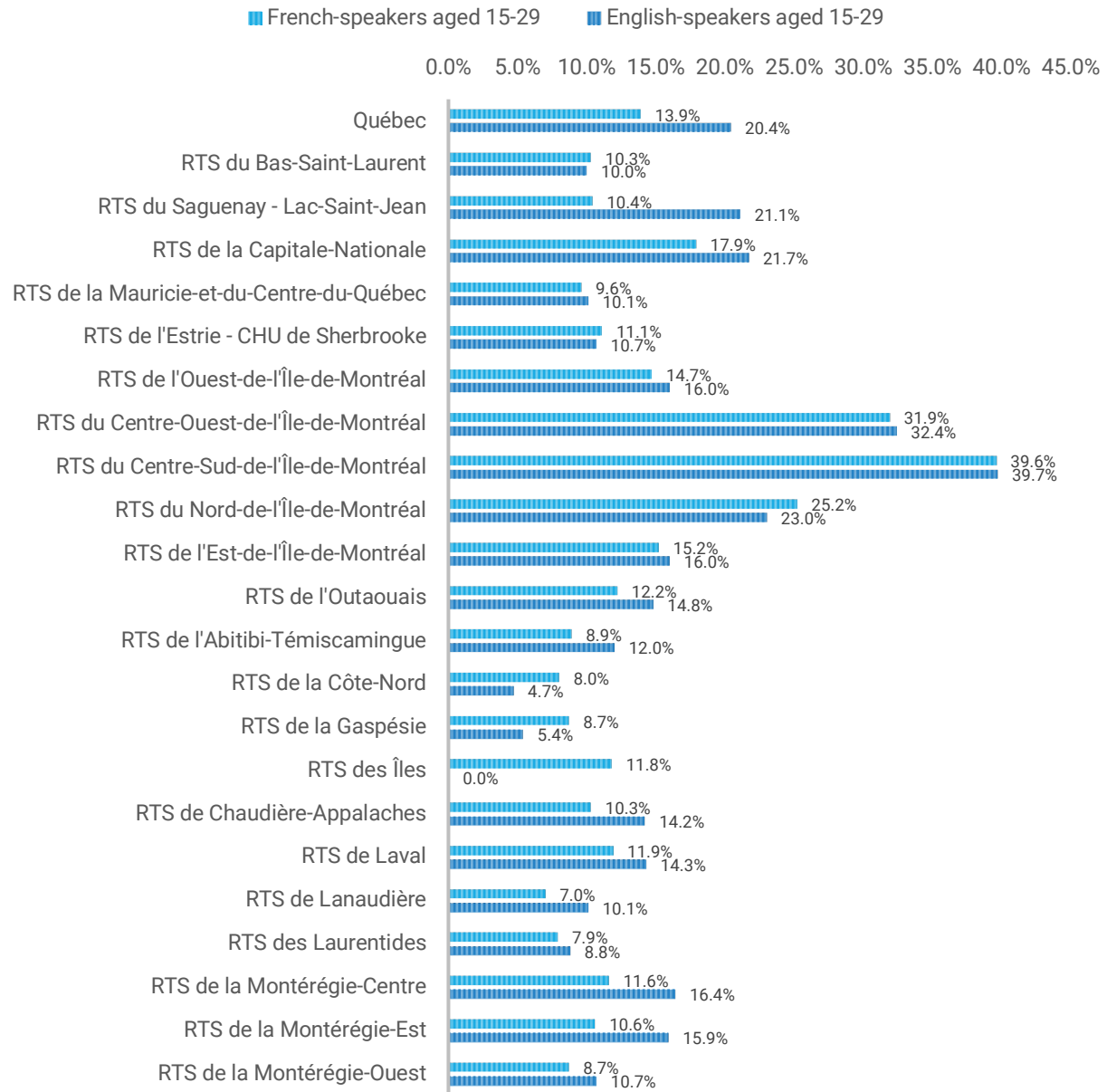


## PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH HIGH EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATION



While close to 30% of Quebec's minority language population claim a university diploma or degree at the bachelor level or higher, only 20.4% of English-speaking youth have this level of educational attainment, factoring in that current high school students are included in this variable. This varies by region among Anglophone youth ranging from 39.7% in RTS Centre Sud de l'Île de Montreal and 32.4% in RTS du Centre Ouest de L'Île de Montreal to 4.7% in RTS de la Cote Nord and 5.4% in RTS de la Gaspésie.

## PROPORTION OF THOSE AGED 15-29 WITH HIGH EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT IN THE FRENCH- AND ENGLISH-SPEAKING POPULATIONS



In 2016, English-speaking youth residing in Quebec were more likely to claim a university diploma or degree at the bachelor level or above as their highest level of educational attainment (20.4%) compared to French-speaking youth (13.9%). This varies by region among Anglophone youth ranging from 39.7% in RTS Centre Sud de l'Île de Montreal and 32.4% in RTS du Centre Ouest de L'Île de Montreal to 4.7% in RTS de la Cote Nord and 5.4% in RTS de la Gaspésie.

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# APPENDIX A – TABLES

## Size of the Population, Québec and its RTS Territories, 2016

Geography	Total	English-speakers	English-speakers (%)	French-speakers	French-speakers (%)
Québec	7,965,450	1,097,925	13.8%	6,795,280	85.3%
RTS du Bas-Saint-Laurent	189,975	1,080	0.6%	188,850	99.4%
RTS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	268,870	1,975	0.7%	266,835	99.2%
RTS de la Capitale-Nationale	709,325	14,205	2.0%	693,190	97.7%
RTS de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	491,370	5,800	1.2%	484,485	98.6%
RTS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke	459,315	37,015	8.1%	420,840	91.6%
RTS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	349,255	194,935	55.8%	148,085	42.4%
RTS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	337,975	185,920	55.0%	142,460	42.2%
RTS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	291,630	77,840	26.7%	209,030	71.7%
RTS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	415,685	88,895	21.4%	314,375	75.6%
RTS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	500,445	74,575	14.9%	415,110	82.9%
RTS de l'Outaouais	376,905	70,575	18.7%	304,625	80.8%
RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	143,155	5,155	3.6%	137,920	96.3%
RTS de la Côte-Nord	90,680	5,175	5.7%	85,085	93.8%
RTS de la Gaspésie	75,945	8,090	10.7%	67,840	89.3%
RTS des Îles	12,190	695	5.7%	11,495	94.3%
RTS de Chaudière-Appalaches	408,615	3,755	0.9%	404,685	99.0%
RTS de Laval	410,850	91,115	22.2%	311,535	75.8%
RTS de Lanaudière	486,285	14,215	2.9%	471,020	96.9%
RTS des Laurentides	577,855	37,555	6.5%	538,755	93.2%
RTS de la Montérégie-Centre	391,170	53,570	13.7%	332,790	85.1%
RTS de la Montérégie-Est	505,470	19,130	3.8%	484,805	95.9%
RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest	428,590	83,300	19.4%	343,710	80.2%

## Age Structure, English-speaking Population, Québec and its RTS Territories, 2016

Geography	Total	0-5 years	0-14 years	15-29 years	30-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Québec	1,097,925	61,400	165,085	225,585	241,805	305,775	159,670
RTS du Bas-Saint-Laurent	1,080	30	90	150	225	365	255
RTS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	1,975	135	275	445	460	415	375
RTS de la Capitale-Nationale	14,205	560	1,625	2,995	3,645	3,785	2,155
RTS de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	5,800	230	615	1,045	1,170	1,825	1,145
RTS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke	37,015	1,810	5,175	6,465	5,890	10,975	8,505
RTS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	194,935	10,900	30,565	39,270	35,705	58,835	30,560
RTS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	185,920	10,180	25,770	44,130	40,295	44,330	31,400
RTS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	77,840	4,075	8,400	20,110	25,405	16,900	7,025
RTS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	88,895	4,380	11,505	17,740	22,170	25,020	12,465
RTS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	74,575	3,120	9,255	16,295	16,830	23,630	8,570
RTS de l'Outaouais	70,575	4,670	12,205	12,775	15,585	20,530	9,475
RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	5,155	275	810	950	965	1,730	690
RTS de la Côte-Nord	5,175	335	895	965	850	1,575	890
RTS de la Gaspésie	8,090	500	1,210	1,110	1,180	2,420	2,175
RTS des Îles	695	30	90	95	100	245	175
RTS de Chaudière-Appalaches	3,755	175	460	595	820	1,235	635
RTS de Laval	91,115	5,470	15,850	17,595	21,670	26,170	9,835
RTS de Lanaudière	14,215	800	2,090	2,185	3,305	4,580	2,050
RTS des Laurentides	37,555	2,035	5,805	5,925	6,980	11,685	7,160
RTS de la Montérégie-Centre	53,570	2,960	7,540	9,905	11,895	15,270	8,965
RTS de la Montérégie-Est	19,130	775	2,175	3,475	4,670	5,795	3,020
RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest	83,300	5,920	16,070	14,615	17,355	24,115	11,150
Québec	100.0%	5.6%	15.0%	20.5%	22.0%	27.9%	14.5%
RTS du Bas-Saint-Laurent	100.0%	2.8%	8.3%	13.9%	20.8%	33.8%	23.6%
RTS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	100.0%	6.8%	13.9%	22.5%	23.3%	21.0%	19.0%
RTS de la Capitale-Nationale	100.0%	3.9%	11.4%	21.1%	25.7%	26.6%	15.2%
RTS de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	100.0%	4.0%	10.6%	18.0%	20.2%	31.5%	19.7%
RTS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke	100.0%	4.9%	14.0%	17.5%	15.9%	29.7%	23.0%
RTS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	5.6%	15.7%	20.1%	18.3%	30.2%	15.7%
RTS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	5.5%	13.9%	23.7%	21.7%	23.8%	16.9%
RTS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	5.2%	10.8%	25.8%	32.6%	21.7%	9.0%
RTS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	4.9%	12.9%	20.0%	24.9%	28.1%	14.0%
RTS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	4.2%	12.4%	21.9%	22.6%	31.7%	11.5%
RTS de l'Outaouais	100.0%	6.6%	17.3%	18.1%	22.1%	29.1%	13.4%
RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	100.0%	5.3%	15.7%	18.4%	18.7%	33.6%	13.4%
RTS de la Côte-Nord	100.0%	6.5%	17.3%	18.6%	16.4%	30.4%	17.2%
RTS de la Gaspésie	100.0%	6.2%	15.0%	13.7%	15.6%	29.9%	26.9%
RTS des Îles	100.0%	4.3%	12.9%	13.7%	14.4%	35.3%	25.2%
RTS de Chaudière-Appalaches	100.0%	4.7%	12.3%	15.8%	21.8%	32.9%	16.9%
RTS de Laval	100.0%	6.0%	17.4%	19.3%	23.8%	28.7%	10.8%
RTS de Lanaudière	100.0%	5.6%	14.7%	15.4%	23.3%	23.2%	14.4%
RTS des Laurentides	100.0%	5.4%	15.5%	15.8%	18.6%	31.1%	19.1%
RTS de la Montérégie-Centre	100.0%	5.5%	14.1%	18.5%	22.2%	28.5%	16.7%
RTS de la Montérégie-Est	100.0%	4.1%	11.4%	18.2%	24.4%	30.3%	15.8%
RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest	100.0%	7.1%	19.3%	17.5%	20.8%	28.9%	13.4%

## Age Structure, French-speaking Population, Québec and its RTS Territories, 2016

Geography	Total	0-5 years	0-14 years	15-29 years	30-44 years	45-64 years	65 years and over
Québec	6,795,280	456,620	1,143,060	1,188,525	1,316,225	1,995,460	1,152,005
RTS du Bas-Saint-Laurent	188,850	11,180	28,290	28,010	31,120	61,055	40,375
RTS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	266,835	16,945	42,195	42,265	47,130	83,980	51,270
RTS de la Capitale-Nationale	693,190	45,500	107,090	123,550	134,935	199,740	127,870
RTS de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	484,485	29,750	75,905	77,815	84,520	149,245	96,990
RTS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke	420,840	27,700	70,270	71,035	74,780	125,470	79,285
RTS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	148,085	8,965	25,850	25,625	27,115	44,530	24,965
RTS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	142,460	8,915	24,955	36,445	30,180	31,060	19,825
RTS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	209,030	11,965	26,085	49,610	56,485	51,390	25,460
RTS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	314,375	25,575	57,720	62,630	75,885	74,835	43,760
RTS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	415,110	31,330	71,390	74,830	93,050	108,875	66,970
RTS de l'Outaouais	304,625	22,120	55,025	54,360	59,075	92,285	43,880
RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	137,920	9,665	24,205	24,055	24,735	42,610	22,320
RTS de la Côte-Nord	85,085	5,465	14,325	13,750	15,485	27,525	14,005
RTS de la Gaspésie	67,840	3,345	8,605	8,885	10,410	23,845	16,095
RTS des Îles	11,495	510	1,320	1,480	1,730	4,330	2,635
RTS de Chaudière-Appalaches	404,685	28,020	69,630	64,545	74,895	121,575	74,040
RTS de Laval	311,535	20,170	55,475	57,550	57,455	92,225	48,830
RTS de Lanaudière	471,020	33,155	83,830	80,035	89,305	142,940	74,905
RTS des Laurentides	538,755	35,585	92,280	90,985	100,175	168,370	86,950
RTS de la Montérégie-Centre	332,790	23,230	59,220	57,525	65,740	96,335	53,975
RTS de la Montérégie-Est	19,130	32,450	83,155	81,530	91,540	145,210	83,380
RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest	83,300	23,885	62,840	58,485	66,700	103,365	52,325
Québec	100.0%	4.9%	16.8%	17.5%	19.4%	29.4%	17.0%
RTS du Bas-Saint-Laurent	100.0%	4.5%	15.0%	14.8%	16.5%	32.3%	21.4%
RTS du Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean	100.0%	4.8%	15.8%	15.8%	17.7%	31.5%	19.2%
RTS de la Capitale-Nationale	100.0%	4.8%	15.4%	17.8%	19.5%	28.8%	18.4%
RTS de la Mauricie et du Centre-du-Québec	100.0%	4.6%	15.7%	16.1%	17.4%	30.8%	20.0%
RTS de l'Estrie – CHU de Sherbrooke	100.0%	4.9%	16.7%	16.9%	17.8%	29.8%	18.8%
RTS de l'Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	4.5%	17.5%	17.3%	18.3%	30.1%	16.9%
RTS du Centre-Ouest-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	4.3%	17.5%	25.6%	21.2%	21.8%	13.9%
RTS du Centre-Sud-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	3.8%	12.5%	23.7%	27.0%	24.6%	12.2%
RTS du Nord-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	5.6%	18.4%	19.9%	24.1%	23.7%	13.9%
RTS de l'Est-de-l'Île-de-Montréal	100.0%	5.4%	17.2%	18.0%	22.4%	26.2%	16.1%
RTS de l'Outaouais	100.0%	5.3%	18.1%	17.8%	19.4%	30.3%	14.4%
RTS de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue	100.0%	5.2%	17.6%	17.4%	17.9%	30.9%	16.2%
RTS de la Côte-Nord	100.0%	4.8%	16.8%	16.2%	18.2%	32.4%	16.5%
RTS de la Gaspésie	100.0%	3.8%	12.7%	13.1%	15.3%	35.1%	23.7%
RTS des Îles	100.0%	3.5%	11.5%	12.9%	15.1%	37.7%	22.9%
RTS de Chaudière-Appalaches	100.0%	5.1%	17.2%	15.9%	18.5%	30.0%	18.3%
RTS de Laval	100.0%	4.7%	17.8%	18.5%	18.4%	29.6%	15.7%
RTS de Lanaudière	100.0%	5.2%	17.8%	17.0%	19.0%	30.3%	15.9%
RTS des Laurentides	100.0%	4.9%	17.1%	16.9%	18.6%	31.3%	16.1%
RTS de la Montérégie-Centre	100.0%	5.1%	17.8%	17.3%	19.8%	28.9%	16.2%
RTS de la Montérégie-Est	100.0%	4.9%	17.2%	16.8%	18.9%	30.0%	17.2%
RTS de la Montérégie-Ouest	100.0%	5.1%	18.3%	17.0%	19.4%	30.1%	15.2%